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AN INVITATION TO OUR READERS. See Page 22.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVII. No. 716. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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Resting, but Watchful

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

LLOYD GEORGE AND THE DRAGON

BY HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

By Appointment to H.M. The King.

Supreme Quality

When you buy unsweetened Milk, be sure you get the right brand. Don't be misled by the size of the tin—it's the quality of the contents that counts. In "Ideal" you have milk of the highest possible quality with all its original cream—milk you can depend upon for every purpose. Therefore always insist on

IDEAL MILK

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If unobtainable locally write direct to us. Postage will be refunded.

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Hall's Wine

THE SUPREME TONIC RESTORATIVE

Many doctors continue to write us emphasising the need of Hall's Wine to their patients. A doctor says:—"I wish my patient to continue Hall's Wine for her health's sake." Another writes:—"I wish my daughter who is suffering from anæmia to take a course of Hall's Wine."

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The FAMOUS 5/- SAFETY RAZOR

Complete with 7 'Gem' Damaskeene Blades and stropping attachment.

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Here are the particulars:—

No. 120. **LADIES' "EASYFIT" RAINCOAT.** Belted slip-on style for all weathers and occasions. Fully check-lined, side pockets, storm sleeves and collar. Can be worn with or without belt.

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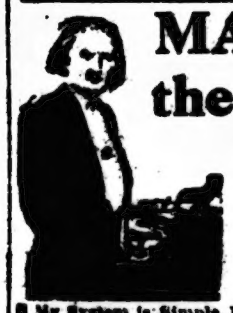

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Tints grey or faded hair any natural shade desired — brown, dark-brown, light-brown or black. It is permanent and washable, has no grease, and does not burn the hair. It is used by over three-quarters of a million people. A Medical Certificate accompanies each bottle. Of all Chemists, Stores, and Hairdressers, 2/6 the Flask or direct from HINDES Ltd., 1, Tabernacle Street, City, London.

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JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
Milton.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVII. No. 716. **Week ending Saturday, February 21st, 1920.** **Twopence.**

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Parliament.

Pending the result of the Wrekin election, we are lying low in the House. Having deliberately sought sanction of our policy from one of the largest and most representative constituencies in the country, we prefer to know what force we have behind us before renewing our efforts to smash up the Party machine.

Mr. Asquith.

We quite recognise that even if Mr. Palmer should be elected—startling as such a result would be in its political significance—the return of Mr. Asquith would be an equally important factor in the new situation. We foresee some piquant developments.

"L. G."

Meanwhile, the presence of the Prime Minister has put new heart into the Coalition. His trouncing of the Wee Frees and the Labourites has been a delicious exhibition of Parliamentary skill—and that is what they like in the House. But if Asquith had been there to reply!

Russia.

Let us give one illustration—Russia. We were told that trading with her is the only solution. But who will trade with a country whose Government can give no effective guarantee for the fulfilment of contracts?

America.

We understood that we were to be "severely reprimanded" in the House over our recent articles about America; but so far nothing has happened. *Watch America!*

Bravo Balfour.

We do not, as a rule, go into ecstasies over Mr. Balfour's speeches, but we do like this: "It is impossible to be unjust to the Hun." Them's always been our sentiments.

Is This True?

Thus a well-informed correspondent, writing from Brussels: "Germany is building aeroplanes and submarines in section by the swarm." We must see to it that never again shall we hear the warning, "Take cover." Once bitten, twice shy!

Ourselves.

Thus Mr. Raymond Blathwayt upon ourselves, in an American paper: "Horatio Bottomley, who is neither a statesman nor a scholar," etc., etc., "will be one of our greatest bulwarks against the horrors of Anarchy and Bolshevism, because he is the most 'common-sensible' and reasonable man in the British Isles to-day." Sorry statesmen and scholars are so stupid!

Post Office Deposits.

Rather rough on the thrifty, isn't it, to charge Income Tax, on the "unearned" scale, upon Post Office deposits, carrying the miserable rate of 2½ per cent. interest?

Our Boxing Champion.

Mr. "Smiler" Hales is now "full on the scent," and hopes to put a couple of Midland boys through their paces in the course of the next week. He is more than ever confident of bringing the laurels of the Ring back to the Old Country.

Only Two.

According to *Truth*, "Only Mr. Bottomley, and possibly also Mr. Charles Palmer, still believe that Germany will ever make any substantial contribution to our swollen Budget." What our distinguished contemporary really means is that only Mr. Palmer and ourselves believe that she *could* be made to pay.

May Day.

The Government having, so to speak, now broken off diplomatic relations with Labour, the country must be prepared for a general strike in the near future; and we have reason to believe that the First of May has been provisionally fixed as the date. But the resources of civilisation are not yet exhausted.

Insulting the Prince.

Several American correspondents have called our attention to the fact that in bestowing the Freedom of the City upon the Prince of Wales, the Mayor of New York selected the same spot as that on which he performed a similar ceremony in honour of de Valera—the "President of the Irish Republic." A mere coincidence, no doubt!

From Battersea to Australia.

To the many public men who graduated in the Battersea and Clapham Parliament—of which we had the honour of being Prime Minister, with the late Sir Thomas Whittaker and Mr. John Burns amongst our colleagues—must be added Mr. William Holman, the energetic Premier of New South Wales, whom we long ago marked out for distinction.

Sweepstakes.

We are not surprised that the authorities have put a stop to the delivery of Continental sweepstake letters. Although some of the firms concerned are of the highest respectability, the very success of their issues was bringing into existence an alarming number of fraudulent schemes. There is no reason, however, why any *bona-fide* club at home should not organise a "Derby flutter" of its own.

Ashton-under-Lyne.

Welcome to Sir Walter de Frece, M.P.—One for the Coalition. Next, Charles Palmer, M.P.—One for the Independents; and then, Mr. Asquith, M.P.—One for the Wee Frees.

War Nurses.

We should like to know how many of the trained women who served their country continuously throughout the war have received the Royal Red Cross, and how many have not received it—and why.

Sugar.

Why is it, asks a Hackney reader, that whereas she can buy only six ounces of sugar a week, she can "get 112 lb. of sweets"? If so, it is a damnable scandal. Until supplies are again normal, the manufacture of all sweetstuffs should be limited.

Gold.

And that reminds us, too, of gold. As was done years ago, patriotic citizens should replace their gold plate with pewter.

That £1,000,000,000.

At the same time, whilst giving the *Daily Express* full credit for its patriotic intentions, we doubt whether the surrender to the State of the jewellery and plate in the country would go far towards improving the exchange with America. We are afraid that a compulsory Return of such property would be very disappointing to our contemporary.

The *Deutschland*.

The famous German submarine monster, which will shortly start upon a coastal tour, was, it appears, the medium of conveying communications from the notorious Professor Kuno Meyer to spies in Ireland—in addition to her other villainies.

Our Amendment.

Had we taken part in the debate on the Address, it would have been to move an amendment, "regretting that, while in your Majesty's Speech there is an assurance of the excellent relations which exist with all our Allies, no mention is made of the great Republic of the United States of America, and no indication given of the present condition of negotiations with that Power either in relation to the Peace Treaty or the League of Nations by which such Treaty is governed, and which, according to your Majesty's most gracious Speech at the opening of this present Parliament, constituted the only hope of saving mankind from the recurrence of the scourge of war." But our chance will come.

Local Limerick.

(*Edward Munden, Chairman of Food Control Committee, Newport, Isle of Wight, was fined £5 and costs for selling jam at prices exceeding the maximum.*)

There's a Food Control chief in sad plight;
His fine for high prices was slight,
But it told the dear soul
That his scheme of Control
In his shop wasn't all Isle-of-Wight.

More "Sport."

Judging by some recent pictures in the Press, badger digging is another alleged sport which ought to go on the black list. "Got Him!" reads the letterpress under an illustration which shows a man gripping a badger with what looks like a pair of tongs—"Tailing the badger from its lair with the terriers hanging on to its head." It need not be pointed out that the cruelty in the case is gross and callous.

Bath for Bunkum!

It is a long way to go, no doubt, but—Bath for Bunkum! There they have a typical professor of the same in the person of Alderman E. Phillips. When a man earning 50s. a week said he couldn't afford to maintain his son in an industrial school, he exclaimed from the Bench, "Can't pay indeed! Confound you, sir. You deserve thrashing." It is long odds that this aldermanic person doesn't maintain *his* family on 50s. a week and find it easy going.

Rent or Robbery.

It is harping on an old string to denounce the exorbitant rents demanded for City offices, but really the matter is one that should be insistently pressed upon the attention of the Legislature. Among recent complaints is one from a firm occupying a set of rooms in Mark Lane, the tenancy of which they have recently been permitted to renew at an increase amounting to 400 per cent. on the former rental. For such exactions profiteering is almost a complimentary term; yet the Profiteering Committees cannot assist, and the Increase of Rents Acts do not apply. Is the swelling scandal to go unchecked?

A Forgiven Fault.

We do not propose to criticise the decision of the Admiralty not to prosecute the widow of a naval officer reported to have fraudulently drawn a pension for ten years by concealing the fact that she had remarried. Our chief concern is that in these matters there should be one law for all ranks, and that if a policy of clemency is in favour at the Admiralty, it should be applied with all-round fairness. In other words, we are not going to see the widow of Jack Tar, A.B., "made an example of," while offenders of greater social pretensions go scot free. And we are keeping our eyes open.

A Question of Decency.

We are glad to notice that our recent protest against the employment of female nurses as attendants upon male lunatics is endorsed by the *National Asylum-Workers' Magazine*, in whose columns the revolting nature of the duties involved are emphasised with lurid force. Suffice it to repeat that the care of male lunatics is a task wholly unsuited even for experienced women, to say nothing of the young and sometimes frivolous girls who, from motives of economy, are frequently employed. If no adequate authority rests with the Ministry of Health, Parliament must intervene to put a stop to an extremely unpleasant scandal.

Spreading.

Bad habits spread. We have before us a letter from the Manager of the Seacroft Hotel, Skegness, which calmly tells a family badly in need of a holiday:—"I am sorry that we do not take children." If the kiddies are to be refused shelter in hotels, perhaps boarding-houses will follow suit, and there will be no seaside for them. Next we shall expect the L.C.C. schools to announce, "No children; classes for adults only."

Two Jobs at Hereford.

The Clerk to the Hereford Guardians having resigned, the Board promptly appointed his son, a solicitor, to be Clerk, and his daughter to another post. We believe the son holds one or two other public berths. The point is that the vacancies were never advertised. The Guardians, having perpetrated these jobs, wish them to be made permanent, and are after the immediate sanction of the Registrar-General. We hope the higher authorities, before saying yes, will carefully consider all the circumstances of those appointments.

ONE WEEK
FOOTBALL COMPETITION.
£250
— MUST BE WON —
FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS
or next largest number of winning teams.
Fill up the Free Coupon on page iii of cover.

Eating the Lark.

If Wordsworth could hear of the continual netting of skylarks on the South Downs he would shout shame from his grave. "On fine days," writes a lady, "it is terrible to see and hear the larks in the nets. I believe Sussex is the only county where this trade in larks for food is carried on." And a shameful and shocking trade it is. A man or woman who would destroy such a voice to eat such a bird ought to be sentenced to six months' skilly.

Restore "The Cat."

Charged at Holyhead with assaulting a young woman in a compartment of a L.N.W.R. train, an Irishman named Christopher Boylan was alleged to have used savage violence. Not content with molesting the girl in the carriage, he had followed her into the corridor and kicked her in the stomach, being held back from further brutality only by the intervention of the other passengers. For this cruel piece of work the Holyhead Magistrates sentenced the ruffian to two months' imprisonment. Will any misguided humanitarian argue that the young brute would have been "degraded" by a few strokes of "the cat"?

A Comedy of Pork.

A Liverpool butcher named William Rimmer sold a joint of pork for £1 0s. 7d., the correct price being 14s. 4d. In due course the case was heard in Court, and the butcher fined £15, a similar mulct being inflicted on each of two other charges. The customer then thought the Court would pay his modest 7s. or so, the overcharge, but an official told him he must get it from Rimmer. That person flatly refused, saying he had paid all he intended to pay. The Court has pocketed £15 over that particular joint, the aggrieved customer is still 7s. out of pocket because of it. Who is the profiteer now, the butcher, the Court, or the Profiteering Committee?

House or Hovel.

Mr. Bately applied at Blyth for an Ejectment Order against a Mrs. Heltin, saying he had offered her other accommodation. The lady described what was offered—a "house" of one room for nine persons, and another with one bedroom that had neither door nor window, but boasted a kitchen without an oven. It would mean that all her family, males and females, would have to sleep in one room. Yet the newspaper says, "she was ordered to get out in a month," a forcible way of expressing a cruel decision.

Cheap Conductresses.

Maidstone Town Council has been asked to get rid of the remaining conductresses on the trams, and so give a chance to out-of-work men. Mr. Pickard thought it was not a man's job, and wondered why the Council should be asked to pay men's wages when they had the women at a cheaper rate. Several other members imagined the change would mean bankruptcy or higher fares. Yet the number of women employed is only 21, and the difference in the salary would be but 10s. However, the proposal was turned down. The women remain on the step; the men continue on the corner.

A Burdensome Impost.

Is it really necessary to mulct the promoters of "charity" concerts in the Entertainments Tax? At Saltley, near Birmingham, a smoking concert having been arranged on behalf of a destitute family, twopence out of the 8d. charged for each ticket was "collared" by the Revenue authorities. At sixpence, the real price of admission apart from tax, it is probable that a much larger number of tickets might have been sold, the purchasers being mostly of the class with whom in these hard times every penny counts. The case serves as an illustration of a hardship that is widely felt. Insistent as are the needs of the Exchequer, the claim of pity is stronger still.

Philatelic.

A Hun stamp dealer in Berlin is anxious from the advertising pages of a German trade paper to attract the attention of American collectors. "Gents!" says he. "I have always for sale large and small collections of war stamps of the Central Nations. If you make a trip to here, please call at my house, you will find many good thinks. You can have a very fine collection pretty near complete. Many of the setts in this Album you cant gett no more. This collection would at your country at least ten times as much be asked for." Advertiser finally announces that he is "late member of the U.S.20 Jnf Band." Some stamp collectors will very likely believe it.

Woolwich.

Major Gibbs appears to have had a bad time as a gentleman ranker. He has written a book telling the purchaser of same all about it. "Woolwich!" he says among other things. "Bad smells, bad beer, bad women, bad language. We lay at night side by side on adjoining bunks, fifty of us in a room. They had spent their two days pay on beer, bad beer. The weather was hot. Most of them were stark naked. I'd had a bath that morning. They hadn't." It is not a pleasing picture. "Yet," comments one of our readers who also won through the ranks to a commission, "if it was bad beer which caused the men to put up the fight they did, Major Gibbs should thank God for that bad beer."

Local Limerick.

(*Not a single case of drunkenness occurred at Dunmow, Essex, during the past year.*)

There's at Dunmow a lead to the land,
All its natives in temperance band;
Not one, for a year,
'Spite of Government beer,
Has been muzzy, sprung, moppy or canned.

A Dirty Ocean.

They have an ocean at Durban which ought to be ashamed of itself. "It is hereby notified," explain the Beach and Entertainment Committee in a public advertisement, "that, owing to prevailing dirty conditions of the sea, and unsuitability of the water for bathing purposes, the town baths and swimming bath will be closed until further notice." Presumably the question now arises for the Durbanites whether, if they cannot have the water for their bath, they may drink it for their tea.

"Key Money."

There is at least one man who has a good word to say for "key money"—and he hails from Woking. In a letter to us, he maintains that if house agents are guilty of "reprehensible conduct" when money is offered them, much more so are the people who offer it. "A person offers a house agent money to obtain preference by dirty means. After having done so and obtained the house, the law apparently backs him or her in deducting their money from the rent. Something for nothing with a vengeance!" This is his considered opinion, no doubt. We much prefer our own.

Sir John's Gift.

Sir John Ellerman, the shipowner, decreed in his goodness of heart a Peace Celebration Gift of two weeks' pay to his staffs. The distinct instructions were that the gift for those that go down to the sea in Ellerman ships was to be reserved for captains, officers, and the engineering staff—however new to the service of that line. Stewards and carpenters, even if with many years' service, and having been torpedoed or not, were barred. It looks like spoiling a ship for a ha'porth of tar, and is a decided slight to men who have done fine work for Sir John and his line.

Judge Charming.

Mr. Justice Greer must be one of the most brotherly men about; he can say such nice things about the nastiest people. For instance, in an after-dinner speech at Liverpool the other day he heatedly protested "against the envy, anger, malice and all uncharitableness" shown in criticising profiteers, "who," he explained, "are only doing what everybody else is doing, or would do if they could." The misfortune is that we can't all profiteer. If we could there would be no profiteering. A profiteer without victims would be out of the business before we could say "knife."

Dog in the Manger.

At Baumber, near Horncastle, are ten acres of allotments. Five labourers hold plots. Five tradesmen, three being members of the Council, occupy eight acres. A returned soldier, with no garden, has been striving to obtain even a rod for nearly twelve months, and there is another ex-soldier in like case. Not one plot-holder has seen service, and not one will yield a yard to the men who have. Life in a country village without a bit of land is almost impossible to a labouring man, but the only consolation the soldiers get is the reiterated promise of "next vacancy"—which never eventuates.

A Hungered Horse.

At Blackpool a man called Stokes has been fined £10 or two months' gaol for starving his horse. It was in a pitiably emaciated condition when found dead, and had eaten away part of the stable door. The best the man could say for himself was that he had worked the horse only two half-days in six weeks, and "when a horse is not working you can't afford to buy provender for it at the price it is." That sounds like a confession of deliberate starvation to save his pocket.

Southampton Bench Again.

For selling whisky at a price above the maximum, a Southampton licensee escaped with the "nominal" fine of 20s. For selling newspapers on a Sunday, two boys were fined 5s. apiece, and their employer 10s. All this on the same day and in the same Court. The newspaper sellers pleaded they were only delivering papers ordered, and one Magistrate pointed out how anomalous it was that boys might deliver papers at a house, but, if the householder asked for another, they were forbidden by law to let him have it. In the light of so practical a view, it is a pity the Bench did not in that case impose a "nominal" fine of 1s., to mark their sense of the absurdity and injustice of an archaic law.

Ruined Innocence.

As "a specimen of how our young girls are protected by the Courts," a reader forwards an account of proceedings at the recent Norwich Assizes, where a Watton farmer, named Sidney Suffolk, was charged with a serious offence against a 15-year-old girl. "The prisoner," said Mr. Justice Lush, "had had the child under his special charge, but had allowed himself to betray her time after time." "Children," added his Lordship, "must be protected." Therefore he "could not pass a less sentence than six months' imprisonment, but he would allow it to be in the second division." Protection, indeed! It is difficult to regard such a sentence in any other light than as a condonation of revolting crime.

ARE YOU COLLECTING
JOHN BULL Pen Coupons?
SEE PAGE 22.

Sheffield Leather Trade.

It appears that in our recent paragraph, "Sweetening the Tanneries," we did the Sheffield leather trade an injustice, as the preparation used for treating the hides is composed of glucose made from corn, and not sugar as we suggested. The local trade are thus honourably acquitted.

Hexham's Horror.

The facts about the death of George Lambert, a discharged soldier, of Hexham, are not wholly cleared up by the verdict of the jury that he committed suicide while of unsound mind. Lambert, who suffered pains in the head through a shrapnel wound in the brain, was arrested in a lane, according to the evidence of Sergeant Barrons at the inquest, "on a charge," and later was found hanging by the neck by his scarf from a cistern pipe in his cell. By all accounts the man was of good character. Nobody except the police knows why he was locked up or what was the charge against him, and the police are as silent as the dead man himself. Is this out of pure delicacy of feeling or because they badly bungled?

For Apprentices.

A kindly correspondent tells us that apprentices who served in the war and can no obtain no Government help, as promised, need not lose heart. If the local Exchange renders no aid—as is usual—the apprentice, providing he was properly indentured before service with the Colours, should send full facts of his case to Mr. R. A. Bray, Assistant Controller, Training Dept., Ministry of Labour, St. Ermins, Westminster, S.W.1. Our friend assures us that all will then be well.

In Keere Street.

In Keere Street, Lewes, are some cottages that have been empty a long time. The owner writes an extraordinary letter to an enquirer, stating they were put in order "some years ago, but as they have been unlet for some years they may want a good deal done." So he calmly proposes that any tenant must pay "the whole cost of repairs necessary and a year's rent as well"—at £26 a year for cottages worth 6s. or so a week. "The main point," says the landlord, "seems to me to be, can or can't you pay 1½, 2, or 3 years' rent in advance?" This attitude suggests that Lewes Council might get busy in Keere Street.

A Just Revolt.

We continue to receive protests from parsons whose income from tithe is taxed twice over—once for purposes of Imperial revenue, and again in aid of the local rates. Meanwhile, the Blandford Poor Law Union has taken the matter up, forwarding to the Chancellor of the Exchequer a strong resolution of protest, which, coupled with the action of the Rev. Dr. Tuting, Vicar of Sithney, Cornwall, who has point-blank refused to pay the local rates, may serve to rivet public attention upon an undoubted injustice. Almost alone in the Press we have espoused the cause of the protesting clergy. More power to their arms!

Health and the Hole.

"Expecting to go upstairs any day," an Eastleigh mother put her little son into a clean jersey. A small hole in the back was, however, too glaring a catastrophe for the Health Department of the Hampshire County Council. This is the card the indignant mother received when Johnny came home from school: "Medical Inspection of School Children.—The above-mentioned scholar has been examined and found to be in such a condition as to need your immediate attention. You are recommended to give the matter your attention at once. Jersey needs repair." Dear, dear, oh, dear! How a poor mother is harried!

The Worst Case?

Very many cases of overcrowding, are reported to us, but we hope the following will never be beaten. A family at Whitecroft, Forest of Dean, ejected from their home before Christmas, have since existed in a back kitchen, 12 ft. by 10. They are father, mother, and ten children whose ages vary from 5 to 21. Mother and daughters have been unable to change their clothes since Christmas, and have slept on Windsor chairs. The others rest on the stone floor, or on a sofa lent by a neighbour. If the local Parish Council cannot remedy such a terrible state of things as that, it is incapable of realising its most pressing duty.

£500 for a "Bullet."

For this week only the First Prize in our "Bullets" Competition has been increased to £500. Perhaps *your* coupon may win this substantial prize. See page 24.

CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

This page is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.

To the Right Hon. D. Lloyd George, M.P.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,—I wish you could have been a little more definite in your replies to the deputation of ex-Service men that recently waited upon you, especially with regard to unemployment and the poor success of the so-called Appointments Branch of the Ministry of Labour. The fact that on your own admission there are over 400,000 persons unemployed in this country, most of them having rendered sound service in the war, reflects no credit upon the Department, and I regret you were not in a position to suggest more definite remedies. I cannot help feeling that a touch of that energy and enthusiasm which you displayed during the war would enable you to surmount the present difficulties—Trades Union rules notwithstanding. I shall be happy to help you all I can. JOHN BULL.

To Harold Wright Burnett, Doncaster.

SIR,—I am not one to be hard on any man in trouble, but I must say you richly deserve your sentence of nine months' hard labour. You, the managing director of a large engineering firm, not only drove your car without headlights and killed a man, but you induced a number of your employees to commit perjury in an attempt to shield yourself from the just consequences of your cruel conduct. I commend the sentiments of Mr. Justice Horridge to other road hogs. "If," he said, "I were trying a chauffeur without your education I should pass a severe sentence, and I see no reason why I should be more lenient to you." Let those of like kidney with yourself take warning!

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Edward Davidson, Live Stock Commissioner, Newcastle.

SIR,—I am glad to see you have been exonerated from the charge of "wasting food" by retaining £4,000 worth of mutton in store until it was unfit for human consumption. For it would obviously have been most unfair to make you "stand the racket" for a scandal solely traceable to the one-eyed regulations of the Food Ministry. It was clearly proved that you had no authority to release meat from storage unless it could be shown that there was a shortage of live mutton in the neighbourhood—even though in the meantime a million carcases might qualify for the dustheap. In these circumstances I congratulate you upon your acquittal, while regretting that no one else could be ordered to take your place in the dock. JOHN BULL.

To the Curate-in-Charge, Parish Church, Middleton, near King's Lynn.

DEAR MR. CURATE,—I gather from a letter in your local paper that during the war the late Vicar placed in the Church a Roll of Honour—a list of about 140 men, of whom 30 have laid down their lives for their King, their country—and you. The writer states that, on taking charge, you instructed the Parish Clerk to remove the Roll; that that official refrained or refused to do so; that nevertheless the Roll was removed before a recent Sunday service; and that you have from the pulpit justified this outrage by saying there was no need for the Roll now that the war is over: "the best thing is to forget all about it." Now, rev. sir, if you have done this, and said this, I regard the act as a sacrilege and the sentiment as a shame. Better you out of the pulpit and away from the altar than that this Roll of sacrificial service, this record of Gethsemanes and Calvarys through which bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh have passed, should be torn from the walls where more reverent hands than yours had placed it. JOHN BULL.

To the Governor and Directors of the Bank of England.

SIRS,—It has been brought to my notice that "temporary" clerks employed by you during the last three or four years have received nothing in the way of war bonus or addition to salary, notwithstanding the enormously increased cost of living during the period named. I trust you are not excusing your neglect to do the right thing on the ground that these hard-working men are only temporary employees. I prefer to believe that you have, in the stress of business, overlooked their claim. The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street must not acquire a character for meanness. JOHN BULL.

To W. Lunn, Esq., M.P. for Rothwell.

MY DEAR LUNN,—I take leave to venture the opinion that the threatening language with which you were pleased to endow your imagination in the House of Commons on the Nationalisation of Mines debate will not serve your purposes as an extremist outside its walls. Willingly do I grant that the miners have many just grievances and many just claims, but the majority of this nation is not to be bullied into nationalisation by a minority, and all your wild whooping about revolution is to that end so much waste of breath. When you are able to prove that the mine nationalisers are in a majority, you will not need to threaten—for you will be able to enforce your view by those constitutional means which best become wise and loyal citizens of our country. Until then, kindly keep your hair on.

JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. J. T. Haythornthwaite, Vicar of King's Langley.

DEAR MR. GRUNDY,—There was a company of entertainers, known as the Chongs, and consisting of young ex-Service men, appearing at the Church Room. You were stirred to rise from your seat, as I read, and to protest against the appearance of men in feminine costumes. You suggested that "these costumes were improper and indecent," winding up with the terrible threat that "more would be heard about it." If you are wise, you will let this be the last word on the subject. Males on the stage in female clothes have been known ever since the stage existed, and in the early days of our drama no female ever trod the boards. A concert party of men always includes a female-impersonator or two, and to accuse those young fellows of immodesty was in bad taste and uncharitable. How's your liver? JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Mark Osborne, Builder's Labourer, York Place, Exeter.

DEAR MARK,—You have earned at least a word or two of congratulation and commendation from me on the auspicious occasion of your formal recognition by the Carnegie Hero Fund as a life-saver of note. By all accounts you have to your credit 21 rescues from drowning, though judging by the monetary reward you have received from the hands of the Mayor of your town at long last—a cheque for £10—I imagine it has scarcely paid you to pursue life-saving as a hobby. If it is true, as His Worship remarked, that Exeter is very grateful to you, I should have thought the city would have shown the same in the usual manner by diving its hands a little deeper into its trousers pocket. I am, however, glad to hear that, in addition to the cheque, you are to receive an honorary certificate of the Humane Society, and that your name is to be placed on the roll of heroes. In the future, therefore, as in the past, I trust Exeter may rely at all times on your heroic and self-sacrificing service. JOHN BULL.

To the Rev. E. Harpur, Cardiff.

DEAR SIR,—My attention has been drawn to your recent statement that, although coloured men and white girls constantly come to your church to be married, you are so averse from the unnatural mingling of the races as to have consistently refused to effect these undesirable unions. I daresay that in some quarters your attitude may be criticised; in my opinion, however, it is entirely praiseworthy. As you may know, the scandal you are thus endeavouring to check is one that I have constantly denounced, and I only wish there were a few more public-spirited parsons to emulate your bold example.

JOHN BULL.

To Lieutenant J. M. Parry, Royal Air Force.

SIR,—I am not unduly squeamish, but in view of the fact that you have previously had two Paternity Orders made against you—your wife, meanwhile, having instituted divorce proceedings, since when the Porth Magistrates have made a third Order against you—it is about time you pulled up and tried to run straight for a change. At the same time, it is my duty to tell you that you have behaved very badly, especially to one of your unfortunate victims, your conduct being a disgrace to the distinguished force of which you are an unworthy member. I see that last time you failed to appear in Court—being unwilling, apparently, to face the poor girl you had so heartlessly betrayed. However, I hope this will reach you. JOHN BULL.

Mr. John Duffy, Workhouse Master, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

DEAR SIR,—If I may say so with great respect, your recent application for an increase of wages seems to be amply justified upon public grounds. As you confidingly explained to the Guardians who, it seems, are anxious for you to marry, it simply cannot be done on £75 a year, your present money, and if they really want you to settle down and swell the statistics of the Registrar-General, they must let you have the wherewithal to support the happy home. As I say, having looked into the figures and surveyed the matter generally, I consider your application more than justified, and I am surprised that the Board should have turned it down. Better luck next time.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir Oswald, Stoll, Managing Director, Music Halls, London.

DEAR SIR OSWALD,—I know you are a humane man and a lover of animals. Knowing this, I do wish you would take the lead in putting an end to animal performances which too often not only discredit the music-hall stage, but also encourage the infliction of cruelty by callous men and women, aliens perhaps in the main, on all kinds of animals. During many years I have frequently drawn public attention to this matter, for the evidence available leaves no doubt whatever in my mind that these performances, however clever they may appear, are made possible only by a preliminary course of cruelty in training. Appearances in these shocking shows go for nothing. The "cleverness" in the performance is the concealment of the cruelty; the applause of an audience when it is accorded is at best the reward of the concealment. There are few of these shows which should not be hissed off the stage, and I am shocked and ashamed that the known humanity of the British people as a whole has tolerated them so long. JOHN BULL.

TOO OLD AT THIRTY.

STRANGE ACTION BY GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY.

There is disconcerting news from the Great Central Railway, London offices. Porters and all men in that department have recently been informed that they, ex-Service men, if over 30 years of age, must find other employment. Strong, fit men just above that age, not long returned from carrying heavy kit through rivers of mud, are turned away by the G.C.R. as "too old" for the work of carrying parcels and handling luggage. The Railwaymen's Union, through the local stewards, could do nothing that was satisfactory, so an appeal was made by the cast-off men to Mr. Thomas and the head office. The reply from him and the N.U.R. states that "it is not our agreement that the Companies take such a line. As a matter of fact, we are trying to alter it." This confirms what we had already heard—that other railway companies are meditating, or taking, similar steps. Our hope is that Mr. Thomas and the N.U.R. will be able to stop such iniquitous proceedings, and to assure fairer treatment for men who have served, and who, though they have passed the old age of 30, are still able to put in a good day's work.

AT HIS OWN COST.

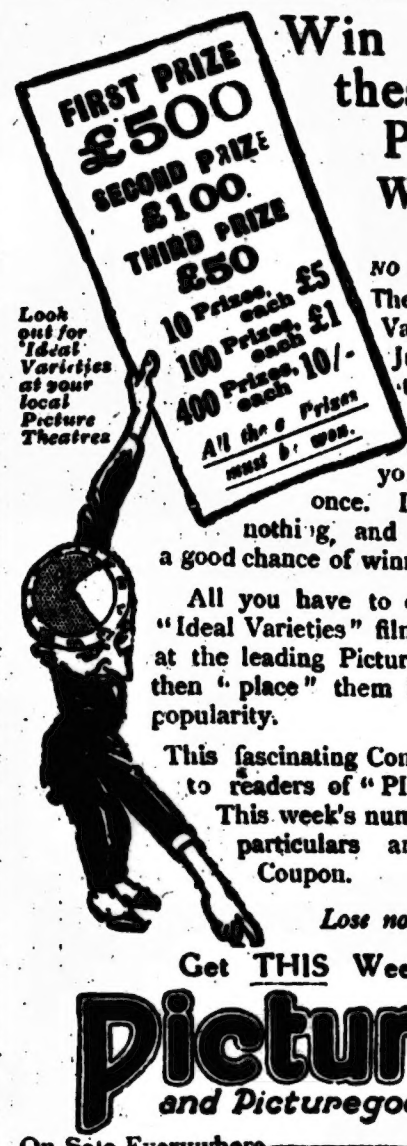
RED TAPE PREVENTS JUSTICE TO PATRIOT.

On the 15th July, 1915, a patriotic British subject sailed from Calcutta to England for the purpose of enlisting. Unfortunately he was taken seriously ill on board ship, and was not able to join up until 4 months and 3 weeks after he sailed from India. Now, Army Order 275, 1918, provides for the "refund to individuals of the expenses incurred by them in proceeding from abroad, after the outbreak of War, to join the British Army, provided that within 2 months of the date of their arrival in the United Kingdom they apply for the same." Our friend obtained a doctor's certificate that he was laid up for the period named; and after serving 3 years and 2 months in France (when he was discharged at the age of 46!) he sent the certificate and a claim for his travelling expenses to the War Office. Notwithstanding the official time limit, we cannot imagine a more just claim than his. Yet it was turned down, and has been repeatedly turned down. Thus the deadly-red-tape worm, which has made the War Office a by-word in the mouths of men, has prevented the rightful reimbursement of the costs a patriot incurred in order to help his country.

FOWLS WITHOUT HOMES.

WEARY WAITING FOR THOSE POULTRY HOUSES.

We have received several complaints of delay on the part of Huts, Bungalows, and Portable Buildings, Ltd., Rosebery House, Bream's Buildings, E.C., who offer poultry houses in sections at £2 each. One reader, who paid in October, has received two sections. Another, ordering in November, has had only some letters, while a third, also a November customer, has not received even a line. The Company now offers its "Third Thousand" poultry houses, but we have heard from customers for the first 1,000 who were not satisfied when they wrote to us. The concern has added a new line in its announcements, to the effect that all orders will be delivered in rotation, and that seems to be a warning to purchasers to be prepared to wait. All the same, we suggest that from October or November to date makes weary waiting, and ones turn seems long a-coming, especially when the anxious poultry-keeper is not vouchsafed a line of comfort, explanation, or apology. Huts, Bungalows, etc., Ltd., will relieve quite a number of our readers by getting on with its business in more slick style.



Win one of these big Prizes Watching Films.

NO ENTRANCE FEES.

The great "Ideal Varieties" Picture-Judging Competition has started. If you have not already entered you can do so at once. It will cost you nothing, and you will stand a good chance of winning a big prize.

All you have to do is to see ten "Ideal Varieties" films (now showing at the leading Picture Theatres) and then "place" them in their order of popularity.

This fascinating Competition is open to readers of "PICTURES" only. This week's number contains full particulars and *Free* Voting Coupon.

Lose no time—

Get THIS Week's

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On Sale Everywhere—————2d.

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Absolutely Astounding—the quickness, certainty and ease with which you learn K. I. Shorthand. Exactly what the busy or ambitious person needs. Trifling cost.

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Here's \ p and this is O a. Write the two together, and you have \ O pa. Here's (th. To make path you simply write \ O and with these two easy movements of your pencil, you have made a word that needs 10 pencil movements when written in long hand.

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In order to prove to you the simplicity of K. I. Shorthand, we would like to send you FREE the new brochure, guarantee, and further information about this system. We shall also furnish gladly a sample lesson. K. I. SHORTHAND is furnished under guarantee, and we are ready to pay £1,000 in cash for a system superior in merit and standing, applicable to the conditions under which K. I. Shorthand is furnished.

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LUCKY PRISONERS.

ACQUITTED, THOUGH JURY SATISFIED OF GUILT.

It may serve no useful purpose to canvass the details of the charge against Samuel Speed and Henry Coates, two men in the building trade, who at the recent Birmingham Quarter Sessions were acquitted of the crime of burglary. Comment should, however, be directed to the extraordinary manner in which the case was handled by the prosecution and by the learned Recorder, Mr. J. S. Dugdale, K.C. In the ordinary way it would, of course, be most improper to question the jury's findings, but finality can hardly be claimed for a verdict arrived at under pressure from the Bench and accompanied by the following remarkable address to the Recorder: "Sir, on two or three occasions while we have been sitting in this box you have pointed out to us that if there is any doubt we must give the prisoner the benefit of that doubt. From the evidence which has been given in this case so far, I should like to say that all the jurymen are of one opinion, and there is no doubt whatever in their minds. But acting on the suggestion of the learned Recorder we feel bound to return a verdict and submit to his suggestion of 'Not Guilty.'" In short, the jury were unanimously agreed that the prisoners were guilty of the crime of burglary. It seems, however, that the Recorder's action was in the nature of a protest against the failure of the prosecution to call two important witnesses to the alleged burglary, the excuse for this omission being that one was nearly blind, and both too infirm to be exposed to the ordeal of the witness-box. That there may have been point in Mr. Dugdale's objection to the absence of these witnesses we are not denying, but in view of the seriousness of the charge the proper course surely would have been to put the prisoners back to the next Sessions to enable the omission to be remedied. To act as Mr. Dugdale, did and even to congratulate the two men—assuming that they were the burglars—on abstaining from violence, was to expose the workings of the criminal law to contempt and ridicule.

GERMAN "CARD-SHARPERS."

BRITISH LAW DEFIED BY HUNS IN A HURRY.

The Huns are getting busy, having lost nothing in the way of artfulness. It sounds somewhat unseasonable, but a well-known picture post-card dealer informs us that "the Christmas trade is just now in full swing"; he tells us, moreover, that he has recently been favoured with highly ornamental samples, and detailed price-lists, supplied by Mr. H. T. Vertigen, Manufacturers' Agent, of Kimberley House, Red Cross Street, E.C. We know nothing of Mr. Vertigen's nationality, but that his principals are Germans he does not for a moment deny; indeed, he seems to glory in it, and to pride himself on the barefaced trickery which, if his advice is followed, is to be practised on the unsuspecting customer. We have seen the original of the letter, signed by Mr. Vertigen, in which the following intimation appears: "The above cards are all of German manufacture, but if you do not have your trade imprint on the address side of the cards the words 'Printed in Germany' need not appear." Thus, before the ink is dry on the Peace Treaty, these unscrupulous merchants are seeking to palm off their wares upon the British public without even the elementary safeguards prescribed by the Merchandise Marks Act. On the sample cards this deceit has been crudely effected, apparently with the aid of a knife or a sand-eraser. The seriousness of the matter from the commercial standpoint is that, owing to the state of the exchange between this country and Germany, these cards can be offered at less than a quarter of the price that shows a fair return to the British manufacturer. Are the Huns and their agents to be permitted to set the law at defiance in their frenzied efforts to recover their lost strangle-hold upon British trade?

A TRAITOR PARSON

AND ANOTHER RENEGADE WHO SEEKS TO POLLUTE THE HOMELAND.

By Charles Palmer.

ONCE again, I ask, has the Government any settled policy in regard to the renegades who, having done their fell work abroad—in America and in the land of the Hun—are returning hot foot to the country they have denounced, and to the people whom they have defiled? The list is growing. Frank Harris, who has prostituted his undoubted talents to traduce the country of his birth; Aubrey Stanhope, who used his poisonous pen in the *Continental Times* when Belgium was in the hands of the enemy—Aubrey Stanhope, the son of a British peer; and that dirty degenerate, Alister Crowley.

These scoundrels who, throughout the war, lived and thrived in Germany or in the States, and foreswore their country, have declared their intention of returning to England. Some may have already arrived. What is the Government doing? I would rather see in our midst a hated German who, at least, did no greater offence to patriotism than to spy and intrigue for the Fatherland, than give asylum to any one of the detestable crew who used brains and pen to hearten the enemy and to blacken the fair fame of Britain in the darkest hours of the war. But there are others. And it is my public duty, at this moment, to proclaim two more as traitors and renegades. I name them so that there can be no question of their identity, and I call upon the Home Office to do its duty and see to it that they are never again permitted to tread the sacred soil of our beloved country. The pity of it is that one is a clergyman, the Rev. Richard Lee, M.A., and the other, the wealthy son of a man who in his lifetime was a worthy member of the House of Commons—Mr. Philips Price.

To deal with the clergyman first: Lee, like the craven he is, has written a book, published in Amsterdam and Rotterdam—Holland, the happy neutral, has much to answer for. It is entitled, "Britain's Guilt in the War," and is an attempt to throw mud at us, to prove that we are the despoilers of Europe, and the arch-betrayers of the cause of Humanity and Civilisation. Yet it has been distributed in this country through the post. "Surely," says this reverend renegade, "we ought to consider whether there is anything more inherently unjust in Germany ruling the land than in Britain ruling the sea." Thank God, the world has given the answer. Germany's military power—the power for oppression and lust of conquest—has been broken, and the British Navy still rules the sea for the benefit of humanity and to the lasting good of mankind. What do you think of this from the reverend pen:

> During the war, the Napoleonic tradition has been used to prolong the war and make impossible a reasonable peace. The vogue of "Holy Redeemer" suited our caste once more. Just as our mood of blind congratulation led to the baleful Peace of Vienna, the mood of glory may lead to a worse Peace of Paris.

And this man, who boasts of Holy Orders, and places after his name the *imprimatur* of a British University, sees fit to provoke the applause of our quondam enemies by sneering at the glorious patriotism which stood between Civilisation and Damnation. Even the splendid spirit which inspires the women of Britain does not escape the sarcasm of this pacifist traitor:—

> The women, who have been such a great support to the nation and ministered to us by shell-making and gentle nursing, are pluming themselves on their indispensability. They never seem to think that the shells they have made so beautifully have shattered out the brains of thousands of fathers, and as the result of their handiwork many are orphans in Europe to-day. The Churches are holding their Services of thanksgiving and re-dedication, and cooing over the dear boys in khaki who have escaped from the great slaughter.

But enough of this black-coated traitor, who insults the Church of which, I suppose, he is still a member. What of Philips Price, who has gone over to the Soviet Government, in Russia—the personification of all that is debased and debauched, the Government which is founded on tyranny and battens on murder? This creature has dared to address a letter to the Independent Labour Party, in which he reveals the true colour of his renegade soul. He is the type of man who is a danger to the peace of the Commonwealth, and it is the duty of the Government to see to it that such men are never again permitted to seek the hospitality of the land they have traduced.

But Price, who has inherited a large fortune in British land and money, is preaching in Russia the gospel of destruction. He says that "not until the Churchill—Lloyd George oligarchy has been driven out, *will it be possible for me to return to England under a guarantee of personal safety.*" What does this mean? That so long as the King's Government, constitutionally elected, remains in power, this pernicious renegade dare not set foot in England. I hope it is true. But is it? The Prime Minister knows—he has publicly said so in the House of Commons—that dark forces in our midst are working for our undoing. Yet all the time, the disciples of the bloody Lenin are working underground, and the Government are taking no effective steps to counteract their pernicious and deadly propaganda.

I am all for relaxing the vexatious restrictions of D.O.R.A. In my opinion, the shackles upon our liberty, rivetted under the exigencies of war, should be struck off. But let us have, in place of them, a Renegades Act which shall proclaim to all the world the names of the men who have denied their country, and given comfort to the enemy. What a mockery it will be to arraign the Germans who were guilty of cruel ferocities in the name of the Fatherland, if we let go scot free—and, what is worse—permit to live among us—men of British blood, bearing once-honoured names, who have been false to family, and traitors to the King. In the name of patriotism, let the Government proclaim these renegades, and sentence of Outlawry be passed upon them.

THE BRUTALITY OF A BAILIE.

TEN DAYS' GAOL FOR A HOMELESS GIRL.

It is always sad to see a young girl standing in the dock at a police-court, and it is natural that the causes of such a calamity should be the subject of anxious inquiry. In the case of Catherine Brannigan, aged 18 years, charged at the Port-Glasgow Police Court, the question can be promptly answered. Her offence was that she had been "found sleeping on a stair" at 13, Ardgowan Street. "Guilty," the poor child pleaded; since the New Year holidays she had been "sleeping out"—not for the pleasure of it, as may be imagined, but because, as she told the Court, she had "nowhere else to go." The case, clearly, was one in which the prisoner should have been remanded for patient inquiry into the whole of the circumstances; the authorities might have communicated with her parents, while the Bench considered the possibility of finding some refuge for her from the cold and squalor of the streets. But no; the Port-Glasgow Magistrates have a shorter way with homeless waifs. The presiding Bailie does not scruple to address the poor child in these heartless and hypocritical terms: "I am very sorry indeed there is no place we can send you. The only thing we can do is to fine you 20s. or ten days. I know you cannot pay the fine, so you will just have to go to prison." So Catherine Brannigan, at eighteen years of age, has gone to gaol, to herd with felons for the crime of having no home to go to in this happy Christian land!

A RUM SORT OF RAFFLE.

ATTRACTIVE ADVERTISEMENT THAT TOLD A CRAM.

This is pretty steep. An advertisement said:—"A good house in good London suburb; immediate possession; no premium; letters only. Bradbury and Mills, Cromwell House, Holborn, E.C.1." Such is the plausible, insinuating start. A house hunter, yearning for particulars, receives a small printed slip from Bradbury and Mills, whose Cromwell House address changes from "Holborn, E.C.1." to Holborn, London, W.C.—just as though the firm "dunno where they are," so to speak. They ignore that "good house in a good London Suburb," but set out that they "have decided to hold quarterly drawings for houses . . . situated in the best parts of London . . . Any group holding £50 worth of tickets may elect one of there (*sic*) number to represent them at the draw. Each house will be limited to 2,500 tickets at 5s. each. If you are interested it is advisable to send early to avoid disappointment. . . . Tickets 5s. each." In our view it is highly desirable to send, not early, but never. At the foot of the printed slip is this written addition: "Advert. 'House to Let' was a printer's error. B. Mills." Printers are blamed for all sorts of crimes, but we cannot swallow that yarn, because, as will be seen from the advert. quoted above in full, the words "House to Let" do not appeal. We do not think any of our readers will send the 5s. in order to be one of 2,500 innocents mixed up in such an obscure and nebulous form of lottery.

TRAGEDY OF NEGLECT.

YOUNG MARRIED WOMAN'S FATAL ORDEAL.

The victim of this cruel tragedy was a young woman of 23, Laurie Webber, wife of an agricultural labourer at Puddletown, Dorset. The Coroner apparently sat without a jury, his verdict being that the poor creature "died from shock and exhaustion, caused by her confinement, no blame being attached to anyone." This is as it may be. It is clear that the young wife was left to face her grim ordeal without the assistance of nurse or doctor. According to the husband's evidence, he called upon Nurse Jeanes, a registered midwife, but she declined to come, on the ground that no previous arrangement had been made with her, and advised that application should be made to a Dr. Luther. In the witness-box the doctor admitted that Webber called upon him at 3 o'clock in the morning, asking him to visit his wife, whose trouble had then actually begun; however, he declined to interest himself in the case, referring the matter back to Nurse Jeanes, and telling the husband to come again if his wife was "really bad." "Really bad" the poor creature became, and died at 7 o'clock that morning; an hour or so earlier Dr. Luther had again been sent for, and he arrived at 7.30 p.m. to find the hapless patient beyond his aid. Thus, owing—shall we say?—to the nurse and doctor insisting that everything should be strictly in order and accordance to previous arrangement, a young life was frittered away—and "no blame attached to anyone"!

PELMANISTS UNAFFECTED BY HIGH COST OF LIVING.

Salaries Trebled and Quadrupled.

"PLENTY OF BIG POSTS FOR BIG MEN," Says Lord Ashfield.

FREE OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

Thousands of men and women are absolutely unaffected by the rising cost of living.

This astonishing fact is made plain from reports (such as those printed below) arriving from men and women in every profession, trade and calling in all parts of the country.

If the cost of living cannot be brought down the income-earning power of the individual must be substantially increased. That is the determination of thousands who are bringing the full force of their mental powers to bear upon the problem.

And beyond a doubt they are succeeding, as the evidence which arrives daily at the Pelman Institute conclusively shows.

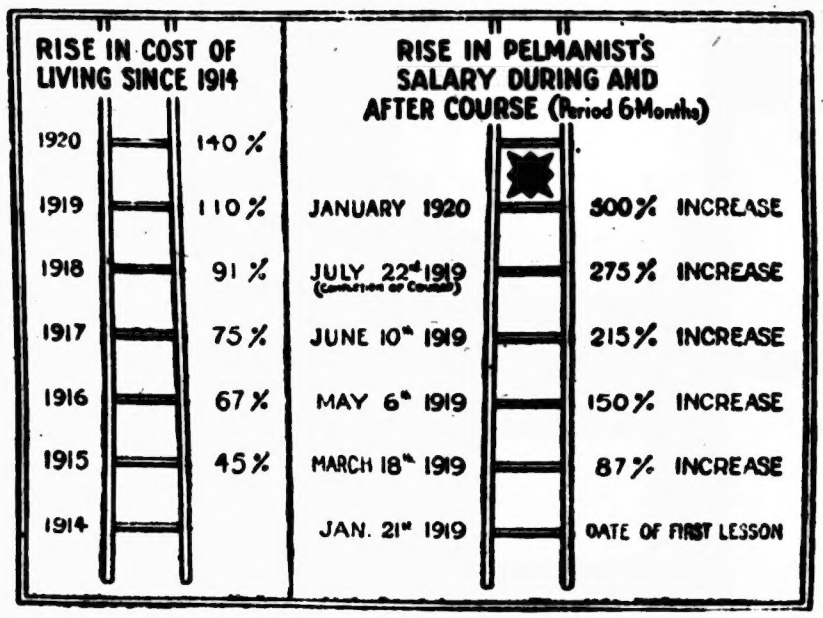
Promotion secured, high positions obtained, profits increased, salaries and incomes doubled, trebled and even *quadrupled*—these are the material benefits which are arousing the greatest enthusiasm among Pelmanists throughout the country.

"Pelmanism versus High Prices" is the watchword of the day—a watchword the adoption of which has been the means of bringing success and prosperity to people in every rank and calling it is possible to mention.

The effect of the great increase in earning-power made certain by Pelmanism is very strikingly demonstrated in the diagram given on this page. Here it will be seen that the cost of living has risen by 140 per cent. since 1914. Compare this with the figures on the right of the diagram. They are the actual figures relating to increases obtained by a student as *a direct result of studying the Course.*

And this is by no means an exceptional case. This Pelmanist's results are typical of thousands of others. There are cases where even 600 per cent. increases are reported. *No post arrives at the Pelman Institute which does not contain reports of financial benefits secured by students.*

Every reader should at once apply to his or her own case the example of these people who have found the golden key to success and prosperity. The free offer made by the Directors of the Pelman Institute still remains open. Full particulars of the Pelman Course, together with a special reduced-fee enrolment form, can be obtained by writing a postcard (or filling in and posting the coupon below) to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1. Write or Call to-day.



The above diagram strikingly illustrates the great increase in earning-power made certain by Pelmanism. Here it will be seen that the cost of living has risen by 140 per cent. since 1914. Compare this with the figures on the right of the Diagram relating to increases obtained by a Pelmanist as a direct result of studying the Course. Readers will see that he gains rapidly and continuously from within a short time of taking the first lesson. This is typical of thousands of cases. For further evidence of this and other points write for a free copy of "Mind and Memory," which, together with a special reduced-fee enrolment form, will be sent, post free, on application to The Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.

INCOME OVER £1,200 A YEAR MORE.

A letter received recently at the Pelman Institute gave pause even to a staff to whom reports of big income-increases have become almost a commonplace. It was from a Managing Director. Here is what he says:—"My income is over £1,200 a year more—*thanks entirely to the sound practical teaching of Pelmanism.*" Is there any reader of this paper who desires more concrete evidence of the income-raising powers of Pelmanism than this letter?

No testimony could be more direct and definite. No investment could be more gratifying than Pelmanism is here conclusively proved to be. In this respect it is interesting to note that hundreds of Pelman students have said that the cash value of the first lesson alone of the Course was worth the full fee paid for the complete Course.

CLERK TREBLES INCOME.

Another instance of material benefit derived from Pelmanism is given in the following letter. It clearly shows that the Pelmanist with a trained mind receives immediate recognition from whoever pays for the labour of his brain and hand. In this instance a clerk writes:—"I am deeply indebted to the Pelman Institute, as since taking up the Course I have more than trebled my income, which is due solely to your teaching."

Here is an example for all who feel the burden of high prices. The man or woman who, conscientiously studying Pelmanism, unfailingly develops those mental qualities which are so highly paid, can afford to laugh at the upward trend of prices. The high cost of living has no fears for the worker whose income is always ahead of it.

Hundreds of cases like the above could be quoted did space only permit it. A lady clerk says:—"My salary was increased by £52 in about nine months. It may not seem much to you, but I have never had such a large increase before." "It may not seem much"—but not many women workers would begrudge a few hours' practice of Pelmanism to gain £1 a week extra.

WHAT EMPLOYERS WANT.

Lord Ashfield (Sir Albert Stanley), in a recent interview, said: "There are plenty of big posts for big men. By the 'big men' I do not mean the expert or the genius. I mean the man endowed with good common sense, capacity for clear thinking, absolute integrity, and who never falters when once a decision is taken, and who has faith in the ultimate success of his venture." In short, Lord Ashfield means a Pelmanist. For it is exactly the qualities called for by this eminent captain of industry with which Pelmanism unfailingly endows all who study its lessons and practise its fascinating exercises. Pelmanism does not claim to make the genius. But it does claim so efficiently to train the mind of the average man or woman that he or she measures up to all the requirements that the best work in any profession, business, or occupation demands.

Pelmanism develops the mind exactly as physical exercises develop the muscles—by systematic use. That is the secret of its amazing accomplishments.

The manner in which the study of the Course enables students to add 100 per cent., 200 per cent. and 300 per cent. to their salaries and incomes may appear sensational. Some of the facts—evidenced by voluntary testimony—may appear amazing to superficial consideration. But the reason for it all is quite simple. Efficient work can always command a rich reward. And the man or woman in whose mind such qualities as:—

—Initiative,	—Salesmanship,
—Concentration,	—Self-Confidence,
—Judgment,	—Reliability,
—Tactfulness,	—Resourcefulness,
—Leadership,	—Retentiveness,
—Originality,	—Observation,

are developed to the utmost stands out from the crowd as a searchlight stands out from a black sky.

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The new revised and enlarged Pelman Course is now ready. Wonderfully effective as was the old course the New (1920) Course is a great improvement. So everyone says who has seen it. You should certainly write for particulars to-day.

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2. A reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on Pelmanism.
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*Address*_____

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TO THE RESCUE!

It's never wise to try these tricks;
They always land you in a fix.

However, "while there's life there's hope,"
And John may save him with his rope.

MAGISTRATE AND CHILD.

HEARTLESS SENTENCES IN CHILDREN'S COURTS FOR SLIGHT OFFENCES.

From time to time our attention is attracted to the heartless magistracy which characterises so many Children's Courts. In many places the sitting Magistrates are utterly unfitted to judge children. A poor mother of ten—Mrs. Atkinson, of Leyton—tells us a piteous story of her own. "There were five little boys with my boy," she says. "They did some damage of £1 to some letters and postcards belonging to a shopkeeper of Leyton. The boys were taken to Stratford Police Court, and my little boy, who is 10 years of age and has never been away from his loving mother in his life except to go to school, was sent away to one of those homes at Liverpool, miles and miles away, for six years—enough to break his heart and mine as well. Perhaps the little chap's heart is broken by now. If you go to this Stratford Court on Fridays you will see mothers breaking their hearts after their little ones, and these men who try them make a laugh of it. When the Magistrates say 'Have you anything to say?' the children put up their hands as if they were at school, their faces white as death. I am not the only one to suffer; it happens every week. To show you what a good boy this has been, the Sunday before they sent him away he found six shillings in the road, in paper, and he took it to the police station, where it is now and will remain for three months, when it will be his own if nobody claims it." We have no reason to think that this picture is overdrawn and over-coloured. In far too many instances children are judged from the wrong point of view. To judge them as if they were grown men, with the sense of responsibility of grown men, is a scandalous shame, and Magistrates who act in this way understand neither justice nor mercy.

TURNING THE TABLES.

MERCILESS VERBAL CHASTISEMENT FOR A HIGH-HANDED OFFICIAL.

It is a rare and refreshing sight to see Bumble on the carpet, and this he was with a vengeance, at a recent meeting of the Holywell (North Wales) Guardians, in the person of the Relieving Officer, Mr. R. T. Price. The complaint against Mr. Price, or one of several complaints, was that he had been irregular in his payments of outdoor relief to the poor families on his list, "keeping the money in his pocket or somewhere else for weeks at a time," and handing it out in a lump instead of by the proper instalments. It was a lax and lazy proceeding, involving serious hardship to the poor; and in the Chairman of the Guardians, Mr. James Prince, the luckless Price had "caught a Tartar." To use the vernacular, Price was "in the cart." "Every person has a card," he was admonished by the irate Chairman, "and it is your duty to go to that house every week and pay the money and mark the card unless the Board grant you permission to send it by post. For goodness' sake let this be the last." Then Price, very meekly, "It *will* be the last." But this was not enough for the Chairman, warming to his work. "And deal kindly with these poor people," was his final admonition. "I do that," said Price. "You don't," retorted the Chairman. "I have visited some of these people and they tell me they dare not say a word, but take whatever you give them because you are so nasty with them. . . . Don't let anything like this happen again. There will certainly be an end to it." Exit Bumble—a sadder, and let us hope a wiser, man. For the future, we may trust, the poor families of Holywell will have their allowances paid over regularly by a Relieving Officer who has learnt, after such a stern lesson, to keep a civil tongue in his head.

THE SONG OF THE "JUMPER."

ATROCIOUS SWEATING IN SPITE OF ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

It is quite evident that there are many bad cases of sweating not touched by the Wages Board Act. Within the past week or two, advertisements in the following terms have been appearing in the daily newspapers:—

> KNITTING.—Fifty experienced knitters in silk wanted at New Jersey Co., Ltd., 10-11, Fetter Lane, Fleet Street, E.C. Liberal Pay.

In view of the promise implied in the last two words, it may be of interest to record the experience of one or two readers who went after this lucrative employment. Estimates vary as to the expenditure of time involved in the hand-knitting of a woman's full-sized "jumper," but probably four days of eight or ten hours working in wool, and a couple of days longer with silk as the material, would not be an excessive calculation. The pay offered by the New Jersey Company was 10s. for the woollen and 15s. for the silk garment. Two other women, who encountered a queue of applicants at the Fetter Lane address, were favoured with instructions for the knitting of a 22-inch woollen jacket, the sum of 10s. again being proffered as suitable remuneration for the completed job. How in the name of common humanity can the Company justify their figures? As regards the Wages Board Act, which was to protect "home workers against the exploitation of their labour," it is evident that it falls far short of humane requirements, and if the Parliamentary Labour Party are sincere in their professions they will compel its speedy amendment. Or is it only the demands of the powerful Trade Unions that are to be reflected in the Party's programme? Unfortunately, the instance given above is not the only one which tends to induce an impartial observer to that conclusion.

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"The Book of the Motor-Car" is the first really comprehensive work on motor-cars, motor-cycles and cycle-cars ever published.

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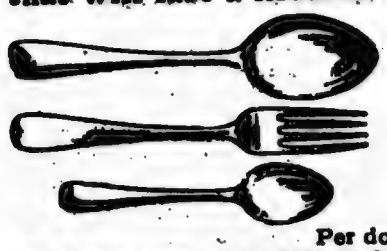

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In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," pages 22 and 23.

Civil Service Exams.

The present rules and regulations in connection with exams. for the Civil Service are absurd. Many pass, only to have their hopes shattered through some slight medical defect. Why not a medical examination *before*, instead of *after*, the hard work is done?—E. B. ELKINS, Wendell Road, Shepherd's Bush.

A Departmental Anomaly.

Under the new Education Act, a child aged 14 years may not leave school until the end of the term. Nevertheless, the Ministry of Pensions (on the assumption that the aforesaid child when 14 years old then becomes a wage-earner) are quick to act and deduct the allowance for that child from the pension or allowance, whereas it is still attending school and also a non-wage-earner. Surely this ought to be remedied at once.—W. DEARNALEY, Winnie Street, Moston, Manchester.

Territorials and War Service Bill.

Enlistment in the new Territorial Army will be accompanied by an obligation to go Overseas in any supreme emergency, but before the "Terriers" can be called upon to go abroad it will be necessary for a special Act of Parliament to be passed authorising same. This Bill should include a clause providing for *an all-round conscription for war work*, so that those who are now willing to "sign on" would know that others less sacrificing would not again be left in England to be paid huge war wages, as many thousands were in 1914.—JOSEPH MCLEAN, Webb Street, Liverpool.

State-aided Students.

Does the Government realise that its scheme of awarding grants to ex-Service men, to enable them to finish their education at the Universities, is proving a complete failure? The grants are utterly inadequate to meet even the irreducible minimum of expense, only to be attained by practising the strictest economy. Such students have the unenviable choice of "going down," or facing a gradually increasing burden of debt. The former spells ruin, the latter disgrace.—K. I. HARRIS, Trinity College, Cambridge.

"No Firing Party."

Recently I attended the funeral of an old comrade who had died from consumption contracted in the Army. A military funeral had been arranged for, but no "firing party" was allowed, owing to the fact that he was a "finally discharged" man, who, according to Army Orders, is denied one, though it is permitted at the funeral of a demobilised man who dies from a wound or disease contracted in the Service. My friend was a good regular soldier, with nine years' service, and it struck me as unjust not to bury him with the same honours and respect as a demobilised man who might have been a Conscript.—A. W. HUTSON, Millerhill, Dalkeith.

Dumping their Poison.

"Pussyfootism" has made America "dry"; that is not our business. "Dry" America has on hand immense quantities of low-grade, poisonous whisky. Does she insist on its destruction? Nay, verily; she ships it here to lighten her loss by dumping on us—at a price—this "distilled damnation," and later, when the evil wrought by this pernicious stuff becomes apparent, "Pussyfoot and Co." will use it as an argument in favour of England going "dry." Why doesn't our Government prohibit this evil, expensive, and quite unnecessary import, which will add to our enormous debt to America? Or do they fear to offend our chief creditor?—A. SINCLAIR, Lucien Road, S.W.

Idle Docks at Leith.

Vessels are being sent to ports already overcrowded with shipping, and goods to the value of millions of pounds are being lost to the nation because of the transport fiasco. Leith is in a position, and has been for months past, to render valuable aid to the country by means of its empty docks and warehouses. There are 1,000 dockers practically starving there, and it is about time the Ministry of Transport got busy in diverting ships from the Thames and other overcrowded ports in the South to Scottish ports. This matter affects the nation as a whole, and if we have to pay for a Ministry of Transport, we expect that the officials will make some return for the fat salaries they receive.—THOMAS MCGREGOR, Salamander Street, Leith.

Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Harry G. Harris.

Bloodhounds as Detectives.

Last week a bloodhound was put on the scent of a man, and although the scent was 16 *hours old*, the dog traced him for two miles to his home. The police authorities should keep a few well-trained bloodhounds *in each county* in the United Kingdom. When a crime is discovered, one could then be sent to the scene of the tragedy with the minimum delay.—H. W. ALVIS, Station Road, Monmouth.

Certificates of Efficiency.

Trade Unions and Guilds continually hammer away for more money and better conditions—quite forgetting that *good* wages should only be given in exchange for *good* work. According to Trade Union principles, all men in certain callings should receive a certain wage; character, ability and ambition counting as nothing. This is obviously unfair. Certificates of ability, industry and character would prove of great advantage to good workers.—ALBERT J. MAPLE, Jeptha Road, Wandsworth.

"English Earth."

Away across the Channel, under the turf of our gallant Allies, lie the bodies of our heroic dead, *our* kith, *our* kin, the saviours of Britain. Would it be too much to ask the Graves Registration Committee to take over from the Old Country just sufficient earth to sprinkle a handful on each British grave? Sentimenta, it may be, but it would mean so much to those of us who have given our loved ones just to know that they were resting under British earth, even though but a handful.—HARRY G. HARRIS, Park Road, N.W.

When "Exchange" *is* "Robbery."

In 1914 a bully plonked a little fellow. Some of humanity's champions helped the small chap. The British champion, being well-off, lent till "spent." One "proud" champion, a powerful bloke, "guessed" and "calculated" for two years, and—cornered the world's gold. He then came over the top to corner the world's credit. White men pay their debts, and, knowing this, the "proud" fellow is trying to get double what was lent. His "exchange" *is* robbery.—ERNEST CUNDALL, Ditchling Road, Brighton.

Mission Funds for China.

Appeals are being made to the public for subscriptions towards the maintenance of missionary work in China. No one who has even an elementary knowledge of the Chinese Empire and its vast population can view without consternation the attempt being made by well-intentioned people to introduce "civilisation" into that country. And surely there are sufficient evils in this old England of ours for an over-zealous Church to combat, without devoting its energies to a policy which, if not entirely futile, would certainly be detrimental to the world's peace and prosperity.—B. JANE, Bodmin, Cornwall.

"For the Defence."

Were I a house-owner, I should prefer elderly tenants without children. Why? Simply because the children of to-day do as they like, and are most destructive. I know of many cases such as the following: Two elderly ladies let a well-kept house to a slipshod family, and it was like an Irish cabin within six months. Families who would spoil any property, and have been refused houses, try to enlist the sympathy of the public with their cry of "No room for children." If children are made to behave and obey at home, then landlords won't mind tenants with families.—B. RICHARDSON, Sea View, St. Blazey.

What the "Man in the Street" Wants.

All expenditure, national or parochial, cut down to bedrock. Nationalisation of any trade or industry absolutely barred. Prohibition of imports of motor-cars and all luxuries until such time as our exports more nearly approach imports. Stoppage of the building of cinemas, theatres, etc., until the house shortage has been dealt with. We want homes for the homeless; amusement for those already housed must wait. All further increases of wages to be resisted to the uttermost for the next one or two years. Drastic reorganisation of transport. Imprisonment for the profiteering wholesalers, and reductions in the price of necessaries—which would naturally follow.—A. GREAVES, "Unaleigh," Green Lanes, N.

Prostituting Sport.

All true sportsmen will wish Mr. Bottomley success in his endeavour to find a potential World's Boxing Champion in Britain. But the fabulous sums offered now for a Championship match are against all reason; so is the exorbitant charge for admission. It is bad policy! Nor is it bettered when the *loser* gains a small fortune. This branch of Sport will have to be spelt with a small "s" if there is not a radical alteration soon.—ARTHUR A. LAST, Nedging, Ipswich.

Spiritualism and Murder Mysteries.

The present terrible "epidemic" of murders—with so many murderers still untraced—surely gives Spiritualism a great opportunity of "making good" and proving itself genuine. Let a medium get into communication with the spirit of the victim of an unknown murderer, and obtain some facts about the crime and its perpetrator—get the police to follow up this information and secure the conviction of the murderer.—A. CLIFFORD, Well Street, Ryde, I.W.

Neglected Royal Isles.

The Channel Islands, which were annexed to Britain at the Conquest, at the present day form the only remaining portions of William the Conqueror's Norman possessions belonging to the British Crown. Yet they have not been visited by Royalty since the late Queen Victoria came in the year 1847. Will our Most Gracious Majesty King George V. of England—and Duke of these Norman Isles—pay us a visit in the near future?—JAMES A. LEFEUVRE, Beaumont, Jersey, C.I.

Why in London?

Why is it that the Cup Final, the great sporting event of the Football season, is always booked to be played in the Metropolis? Could we not have it in the Midlands—say, Birmingham, for instance? It seems rather unfair to players and supporters (especially the latter) of Northern clubs if their local team or favourite should reach the Final, as the present rate of railway and other fares are practically prohibitive. Surely we have a ground in the Midlands capable of holding as many enthusiasts as Stamford Bridge.—Mr. H. STILWELL, Deptford Bridge, S.E.

"In Loving Memory."

Living very near one of our big burial grounds, and seeing some very "lonely-looking" funerals pass—in which the Flag is the only sign that men are even *now* dying for us, in hospital—has prompted me to suggest that people with plenty of money who have lost some one "over there" should buy a grave to hold one, or even three, soldiers, erect a stone proclaiming to all "They died that we might live," also the names of the dear ones who never came back. Surely no better memorial could be raised—a real consolation to some living mother or wife, as well as sacred to the glorious dead!—R. K. PAINE, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

Rational Recreation.

One thing I noticed more than any other when in Cologne, were the magnificent German cafés for the people. You could have coffee, ices, light beer or wines, as you wished, and splendid orchestral music helped towards your spending a pleasant hour or two. What a real pleasure such places here would be, where John Bull, and his wife and kiddies too, could have a change from "the daily round, the common task." Let us do away with our dull, dreary "pubs," and their horrible "boosey" atmosphere, and have in their stead places where we can have our beer, etc., in more uplifting surroundings.—ALEC B. PAYCE, Hermand Terrace, Edinburgh.

False Economy.

Hundreds of disabled sailors and soldiers are completing their training for various trades at the numerous centres, and are being granted sums of money up to £9 for the purchase of tools—an amount which even in pre-war times would not have procured a respectable kit for a carpenter, cabinet-maker or engineer. These men are sent to different retail firms to buy at the present astounding figures. If they were supplied with a *decent* kit direct from the tons of surplus tools now being disposed of at Earl's Court and elsewhere at bargain prices, they would be better equipped and the Government would save at least £4 on each man.—J. WALLIS, Northwood Road Thornton Heath.

THE ONLY POPULAR SHILLING FACE CREAM.

NOTWITHSTANDING that it costs more to make, Ven-Yusa, the famous oxygen face cream, can, owing to its great sale, be still sold at the pre-war price of One Shilling per jar.

Ven-Yusa possesses to-day all its pre-war excellence, and remains the only shilling popular cream on the market. There is no better face preparation than Ven-Yusa, which is non-greasy. It is at once a natural beautifier and a skin preservative of rare fragrance.

ONE PRICE ONLY-THE LOWEST.

VEN-YUSA

The Oxygen Beautifier.

ONE QUALITY ONLY-THE BEST.

The Light for Comfort

The soft brilliance of Mazda Lamps gives rest to the work-strained eyes, just as the cushions and upholstery of your easy chair bring solace to the tired limbs. Mazda Lamps mean small lighting bills, too.

MAZDA

DRAWN WIRE ELECTRIC LAMPS made in Rugby.

Obtainable from Electrical Contractors, Ironmongers and Stores.

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Recipe Prizes

From now to March 31st

FIRST prize, £100; second, £50; third, £25; and £1 each for the 75 next best recipes using Libby's Evaporated Milk.

This contest is open to all users of Libby's Evaporated Milk, except hotel, restaurant and club chefs, experts in cooking schools, and members of our own staff.

Conditions.

1. Recipes may be for soups, sauces; vegetable, fish or meat dishes; puddings, sweets; breads, biscuits, scones or cakes.

2. Recipes need not be elaborate but must be original.

3. You may send in as many recipes as you like.

4. Cost of preparation must be stated. (In estimating cost, count only the amount actually used. Example: if you use half a tin of Libby's Milk count only half the cost of the whole tin—same with other ingredients.)

5. The *whole label* from a tin of Libby's Evaporated Milk must accompany each recipe.

Basis of Award.

All recipes will be judged by a committee of impartial cookery experts on basis of *economy* and *originality*.

The decision of judges to be final.

As a suggestion for the many unusual recipes that may be made from Libby's Evaporated Milk, send for our free booklet "Finer Flavoured Milk Dishes."

Recipes taken from this book, however, will not be accepted in the competition—they are to serve as suggestions only.

Order Libby's Evaporated Milk from your grocer to-day, and enter the contest for £250 Cash prizes.

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(B)

LLOYD GEORGE A

The Miners' Threatened "Hold-Up"—Shall Smi

By THE

I SUPPOSE it would be an unprecedented freak of nature if the "invertebrate" Coalition were, after all, to grow a backbone, or—to pursue the jelly-fish smile—if the flabby Medusa were to acquire a shell and take its place among the hardy crustaceans. Nevertheless, it is impossible to deny that in the first week of the new Session the Government has "played up" with considerable vigour, the fighting speeches of the Prime Minister having been just the stuff to put new heart not only into the wavering forces of the Coalition, but—what is of infinitely more importance—into Parliament. And personally I am glad of it, for there is no alternative Government in sight, and I do want to see the prestige of Parliament restored and its influence acknowledged as the paramount force in national affairs. Believe me, it will be a bad day for this nation if ever the House of Commons comes to be generally regarded as an exploded engine of government, or, indeed, as anything less than the supreme expression of the national will. Consequently, apart entirely from the fortunes of any political group, I welcome the evident intention of the Prime Minister to be more regularly in his place on the Treasury Bench, and to make Parliament the arena of his power and influence; while, for similar reasons, I venture to hope that we may shortly witness the return of Mr. Asquith in the rôle of Leader of the Opposition.

The Authority of Parliament.

Yes, I certainly want to see Mr. Asquith back at Westminster, and the sooner the better—for, whatever the defects of his war policy, he is, as I have often said, the greatest Parliamentarian of our time, and his return to the House of Commons would tend to strengthen and enforce the authority of Parliament in the most critical days of its long and chequered history. In such times as these we want, above all, good Parliament men—not the delegates of powerful outside organisations, of the Trade Union Congress, of the Co-operative Movement, or any kindred society, but of men who believe in Parliament as the proper engine of democratic government, and will resist every encroachment upon its authority as an assault upon the democratic liberties of the British people. By the side of this great principle of Parliamentary supremacy, all Party prognostications pale into insignificance. I do not deeply care for the fate of the Coalition, as such—for the fortunes of the Independent Liberals, or the prospects of the Labour Party; what I *am* concerned about is that Parliament should not dip its historic flag to any upstart rival; and for this reason I venture to urge upon the Prime Minister that more important than all his other duties is that of frequent attendance in the House of Commons, and earnest contribution to its proceedings. I can only repeat what I have said a hundred times—that as long as it is inspired by patriotic fervour and an honest concern for the welfare of all classes of the community, the present Government may count upon my support—and, as I hope soon to add, in the correct Parliamentary phrase, that "of those associated with me." One of the reasons for the confidence I felt in recommending Mr. Charles Palmer to the electors of the Wrekin Division was that I knew him to be inspired by an affection for Parliament akin to my own, and interwoven with the very texture of his political faith. Not since Charles I. went to the block have men of his calibre had a sterner part to play.

Life-and-Death Struggle.

Now, in writing in this strain, I am not simply giving rein to sentiment, or indulging in windy rhetoric. It is my deep and solemn conviction that, before many weeks are over our heads, Parliament—the historic citadel of British liberties—will be engaged in nothing less than a life-and-death struggle. Not the mere fortunes of Parties, about which we were speculating last week, but the very bedrock basis of constitutional government will be at stake. For, make no error, the extremists of the Labour movement—the apostles of Sovietism and Direct Action as a substitute for ordered progress—mean mischief. Ugly symptoms were apparent during the Debate on the Address last week, notably in the speech of Mr. W. Lunn, the Labour member for Rothwell, who supported Mr. Brace's motion for the Nationalisation of the Coal Mines. But what a contrast between the two speeches! You may say, if you like, that Mr. Brace is the superior tactician—that he means the same but has learnt not to blurt out his private sentiments upon unpropitious occasions. That, of course, is a possible explanation, but my own view is that there is a growing cleavage in the ranks of Labour—that such men as Brace and Clynes and Thomas and Tillett, are drawing further and further away from the extreme section to which, unfortunately, the heads of the Miners' Federation belong. When Mr. Lunn states that Parliament has had its "last chance" of determining the question of nationalisation—when in effect he points the strike pistol at the heart of the House of Commons—does anyone expect that his words will be repudiated by Messrs. Smillie and Hodges, or that his attitude will be denounced by the Executive of the Miners' Federation? Not at all. Indeed, the Federation leaders have been extremely candid about their intentions, Mr. Frank Hodges having repeatedly "warned" us of what would happen if their demands were refused, while only this week Mr. Vernon Hartshorn, M.P., the prominent South Wales miners' agent, has confessed to "a serious apprehension" of a miners' strike in the near future. What does it all mean? I will tell you. It means that the Federation, as representing a single skilled trade, intend to try conclusions with Parliament, as representing the nation. That is the issue.

Serious and Direct Challenge.

Are we to be governed by the Commons of England or by a Trade Union caucus? I say deliberately that this is the most serious and direct challenge that Parliament has received for three centuries—since an insensate Sovereign thought he could flout the people and break every law, only to find himself broken against the granite wall of popular resistance. It is rubbish to tell me that nationalisation is a purely industrial question—a matter for the miners alone, affecting no other interest; why, it is a question whose ramifications touch every phase of our social, industrial and domestic life—affecting the prosperity of every trade, influencing the comfort and happiness, the health and wealth, of all sections of the community. Yet we are told it is to be decided not by the authority of Parliament—not by the electors at a General Election or on a special Referendum—but by the mere fiat of the Miners' Federation, who for this purpose are to be King, Lords and Commons rolled into a single despotic power. That is what I mean when I say that Parliament may shortly be engaged in a life-and-death struggle—for if it once capitulated to such a threat, it could never hold up its head again as the Sovereign Assembly of a free people. The true centre of government would have been transferred to a rival authority. Our liberties would thenceforth be in pawn to the Trade Union Congress. If victory rested with the Federation, we might as well lock up the doors of Parliament and auction the Crown jewels. Hodges would be Emperor, Smillie would be Sultan. And, what is more, our amateur Lenins would have tasted blood; once successful in their attempt at Government by Strike—Rule by Revolt—and there would be nothing on earth they might not hope to achieve by paralysing the industry of the country, holding the nation to ransom, crying, "Hands Up!" to Parliament and helping themselves to the "swag." Such considerations are, of course, entirely apart from the merits of the nationalisation proposals, upon which, as my readers are aware, I hold pretty definite opinions. In common with Mr. C. B. Stanton, M.P., himself a South Wales miner, and many other responsible Labour leaders uninfluenced by the decrees of the Trade Union "bosses," I hold that the State control of the coal-mining industry would be detrimental to the interests of the workers themselves—that by stifling enterprise and choking initiative it would diminish the fund available for distribution in wages, and that the last state of the miners would be very much worse than the first; whilst it is absolutely certain that their strike weapon would cease to be effective once they became the servants of the State. I believe, too, that from the standpoint of the consumer, whose interests must be constantly borne in mind, the experiment would

ND THE DRAGON.

e be Sultan?—Why Asquith will be Welcomed.

EDITOR.

be disastrous; the palpable evils resulting from State control during and since the war would be intensified a hundred-fold, and we might say good-bye to all hope of the restoration of "normal conditions." I am as certain as I am of my own existence that no important branch of British industry will ever thrive in the strait-jacket of Governmental regulation. Thus I answer if you ask me for my personal opinion; yet I am sufficient of a democrat to say that if the people of this country decide otherwise, if the majority go against me, I will abide by their verdict, and—greatly as I might deplore it—endeavour to make the best of it. This I contend is the only democratic attitude—the only position compatible with orderly government, and the safety of our common citizen-rights. How does it compare with the attitude of Messrs. Hodges and Smillie, or with the views expressed by Mr. Lunn in the House of Commons? This is their standpoint: "We, as representing the Miners' Federation, demand nationalisation. Our minds are made up. We see no necessity for protracted discussion. If Parliament chooses to accept our proposals, well and good; if not, no matter. We have another weapon. Failing compliance with our demands, we will declare a strike whose unexampled rigours will force the Government, against their wishes, to adopt our policy. Whether or not the nation desires it, the coal-mining industry must and shall be nationalised. Otherwise no miner shall work." I think that is not an unfair statement of the attitude of the extreme section who, as I say, are "in the saddle." Is this Democracy? To ask the question is to answer it. Such an attitude is one of rank and blatant anarchy—to be fought to the death if our cherished Liberty is to be more than an empty name.

Promise of Unwavering Support.

I am convinced that the great mass of the workers are fully alive to the danger. They very properly resent the claim of a few kid-gloved officials, with most of whom a hard day's real work is a distant memory, to speak in the name of Britain's toiling millions; and whatever the defects of the present Parliament, they have no wish to see it abdicate its authority to the Trade Union Congress or any similar body. Consequently, I urge the Prime Minister, with all the earnestness at my command, not to deviate by a hair's breadth from the sound line he took up in the Debate on the Address—viz., that this is a matter for the unfettered decision of Parliament, and that in the discharge of its clear duty to the country the Government will accept no dictation from any outside body. As long as he takes this line, and sticks to it, unmoved by threats or blandishments, I promise him that he shall have the unwavering support of this journal. Indeed, I assure the right hon. gentleman that where the prestige and authority of Parliament are concerned, he need have no fear of that "independence" which I have always exercised and which, following my example, my colleague Mr. Palmer was careful to claim when standing for the Wrekin Division. But in this struggle for the honour of Parliament and the liberty of the nation we are bound to the Prime Minister by ties stronger than any pledge or "coupon"—that is, by our common love for Britain, by our veneration for her ancient and well-tried institutions, and the resolve that in all matters of policy the will of "the common people"—the true Commons of England—shall prevail. I cannot pierce the Prime Minister's intention so far as to say whether he may yet contemplate a Referendum of the People, or even an "appeal to the country," on this question of nationalisation. Of one thing, however, I am certain—and it is highly significant: the Miners' Federation are not in love with either of these expedients. Their policy aims at the intimidation of the public as well as of Parliament—at obtaining, by short, sharp means, results which, under the free play of constitutional forces, might be indefinitely postponed. What the extremists are contemplating is nothing less than naked war on Society, with starvation as the principal weapon. Well, I unhesitatingly aver that it is the greatest challenge to Parliament since the war of the Cavaliers and the Roundheads, and I am more than glad to see the Little Man from Wales girding on his armour, and declaring that if the struggle is forced upon him it shall be a fight to a finish. It is a thousand pities that we cannot get along without squabbling; that we cannot, as I once pleaded, have a Truce of God in politics and industry until Peace is a certainty, and Plenty a fact—but if the authority of Parliament is challenged by the upstart jealousy of a knot of revolutionary fanatics, there is nothing for it but stern and uncompromising resistance by any and every lawful means. Possibly the danger may yet be averted. There is still a chance that the sane leaders of Labour may carry the day. But *we must keep our powder dry.*

No Truckling to Extremists.

As I said at the beginning, I am hoping the strength of Parliament will receive valuable reinforcements from Paisley and the Wrekin. I shall make no attempt to forecast the secrets of the ballot boxes, but I will just say this: If my hopes for the Wrekin are fulfilled, the House of Commons will have gained a recruit whose devotion to Parliamentary institutions rivals my own in intensity, and who would rather resign his seat on the morrow of election than detract by voice or vote from the authority of the People's Assembly as the final Court of Appeal in all matters of public policy. And I am sure the same can be said of Mr. Asquith. In the course of the Paisley election, he declined from the very beginning to truckle to the extreme element, setting his face sternly against any derogation from the authority of Parliament—and I would add that if, in the event, the right hon. gentleman should finish behind the Labour candidate, it will not be for the friends of Constitutional Government in this country to express any other sentiment than that of frank regret. To my mind, Mr. Asquith's conduct throughout this trying period has been on the footing of high statesmanship. His war record is quite another matter—on which, more than once, I have expressed a candid opinion; but the line he takes to-day is beyond reproach—so far, at any rate, as the great struggle between Constitutionalism and Anarchy is concerned. I am, of course, not overlooking what I regard as his absurd obsession for treating the Hun with tenderness, and I emphatically dissociate myself from his view that two thousand millions is the utmost indemnity which we can hope for. But, for the moment, I am thinking more of the restoration of Parliamentary authority as the bulwark between revolution on the one hand and law and order on the other. And it is in this connection that I look forward, with pleasure, to Mr. Asquith's return to the House. For, like myself, he does not admire the complexion of the present Parliament any more than does Mr. Henderson or Mr. Smillie—although criticising its composition from a totally different standpoint. From many elements of Coalition policy he is strongly averse. He mistrusts the purposes of the Government, doubts their ability, and holds that their continuance in office is inimical to the public interest. But he retains a deep respect for the underlying spirit of our Parliamentary institutions, and will not stoop to curry favour with those who would destroy the very lever by which they won their political freedom—the edifice in which Democracy saw the light and its broad liberties were brought to birth.

If the Nation Demands.

For this reason, and because of my very great respect for his great qualities of heart and intellect, I hope soon to welcome Mr. Asquith as M.P. for Paisley—knowing that he will allow no petty consideration, no paltry sense of personal injury, to influence his judgment on the great questions of the day. With such cogency as I can command, I have stated my objections to the policy of nationalisation as put forward by the Miners' Federation; but I do not conceal from myself the fact that, if the nation as a whole demands it, the experiment will have to be tried. The "if" is a big one, and it covers the whole length and breadth of the position. In the long run, Parliament cannot defy the people. It can, and should, and must, resist the pretensions of a faction to usurp the functions of Government, and drag this free nation captive at its heels. If it comes to a fight, it will be Lloyd George and the Dragon. And I think I know who will win.

IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

HERBERT HENRY ASQUITH.

'Ow do, Mister Asquith! Please to see yer! Not sorry to git back to London, I reckon? . . . I thort not. I 'ope it'll keep fine the nex' few days—until the Twenty-fif, let's say . . . *Wy the Twenty-fif?* 'Cos I reckon you'll 'ave thet Paisley shawl to keep you warm by thet time . . . *Think you'll git in?* I not only thinks so, but 'opes so. I wasn't too keen about it a few weeks ago; but since the Prime Minister's speech w'en Parlyment opened, I kin see you're wanted in the 'Ouse. . . *'Ave I fallen out with Mister Lloyd George?* Not exackly. But 'e's disappointed me.

* * * *

'E didn't say wot I was 'opin' and trusting 'e would say. F'rinstance, 'e didn't say nuthink about profiteerin'. 'E didn't say as the Gov'-ment intended to go for the big bugs an' stop their dirty game of bleedin' the Man in the Street, instead o' worryin' the small shopkeeper wot carn't 'elp 'imself. 'E didn't say wot 'e was goin' to do about them two 'bacca combines, wot squeezed more'n eight millions outer he pockets o' the smoker larst yer, an' now are threatenin' to shove the price o' 'bacca up still 'igher. 'E didn't say 'e was goin' to let the farmer buy 'is feedin' stuffs at a lower price then 'e is allowed to take for 'is w'eat. 'E didn't say 'e was goin' to do anythink to keep prices steady an' stop 'em goin' up at the least excuse.

* * * *

'E didn't say 'e wos goin' to make the pound buy more, so's we can get twenty shillin's worth for a quid instead of eight bobs' worth. 'E didn't say nuthink wot the people is eager to 'ear 'im say. So I shell be glad to 'ear you're back in the 'Ouse again. You haven't set there for forty years for nuthink. An' we ain't afraid as you'll lean too much towards extreme Labour. Although you was inclined to "Wait an' See" in the ole days, I reckon you've learned somethink since the Wore; and arfter the long rest you've 'ad you oughter be strong enough to git a useful team together, an' to run a Guv'-ment again, if the King should send for you arfter the nex' General Election. . . . *Seem quite fond o' you?* No, I carn't say as I'm exackly *thet*. I got the wind up against you as much as anybody in the ole days. But now I kin see the importance of 'avin' a few men o' yore sort in the 'Ouse—experienced politicians.

* * * *

There's one or two things I'm sorry about, an' one is thet you 'aven't seen the wisdom of droppin' the ole Party cries by this time. You could 'ave stood on your own as an Independent, like Charlie Palmer at Wrekin, if you'd felt inclined—and you'd 'ave 'ad a followin'—not 'arf! You, an Bottomley, an' Palmer, an' a few more level-headed, patriotic men could run this country, satisfy Labour, lower prices, get value for money, an' make England respected again as she was before the Wore. I'raps w'en you git back to the 'Ouse you'll lean that way. I 'ope so . . . Wot's that—"*Wait an' See*"? Well, that's wot I gotter do. But I'm waitin' in 'opes.

* * * *

Another thing wot rather riled me was that you said that it was no use chivvying the Huns for the money they promised us in the Peace Treaty. I'm sure the working man wot is ground down by the cost of livin' won't thank you for telling 'im that. You're wot the sky pilots would call a "Job's comforter," Mister Asquith.

* * * *

And, with all respeck, you're wrong. I 'appen to know somethink of wot took place at the Wrekin Election, sir, an' I can give you my davy that nothink got a louder cheer from the working men and working women there than Mister Palmer's promise thet if 'e got into the 'Ouse—as I've no doubt he will—he'll "watch it" that, when the Germans get a bit in hand, a good slice of it shall be paid over to us to cover some of what the blarsted Huns made us pay out. Howsomever, there's still time for you to change your mind. Goo' day, sir.

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"SHEFFIELD DAILY TELEGRAPH" (advertisement):—"Modern Cupola Wanted, capacity 6 to 8 tons per hour, also 2 and 3 ton GEARED LADIES."

"NEWCASTLE EVENING CHRONICLE" (advertisement):—"Apology. Will those who ATTENDED THE IMPORTANT SHOWING OF 'THE END OF THE ROAD' . . . please accept our sincere apology for the NON-ARRIVAL OF THE FILM."

"SCOUT":—"The man had BARE FEET and BARE LEGS, his FEET BEING HIDDEN IN A BADLY-WORN PAIR OF VERY DIRTY BOOTS . . . The rest of his clothing . . . appeared to consist of a PAIR OF CHEAP FLANNEL TROUSERS and a sort of dust coat thrown over it."

"BAZAAR, EXCHANGE AND MART" (advertisement):—"Having DAUGHTER TO FILL PLACE, will sell beautiful young rich milking SHORTHORN COW."

"HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS-OBSERVER" (advertisement):—"Lost . . . STRIPPED Tabby Cat."

"ELLESMERE PORT PIONEER" (advertisement):—"Wanted:—Someone to undertake WASHING OF BACHELOR."

"BOYS' CINEMA":—"'Can you do the journey in six hours?' . . . 'It is NOT POSSIBLE,' he replied, 'but I'LL DO IT!'"

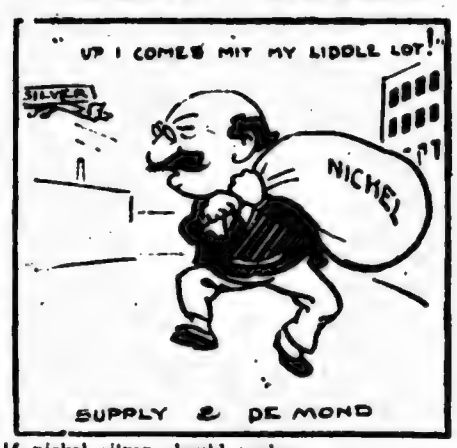
"WILTS TIMES" (advertisement):—"Wanted A middle-aged Person as Help . . . one child between 3 and 4 years, and ANOTHER 9 WEEK-ENDS."

"DAILY SKETCH":—"I saw Lady ——— at the Epstein private view, very chic in a RASPBERRY CHEMISE."

"DAILY RECORD AND MAIL":—"Sentence of nine months' imprisonment was passed . . . on ——— ——— . . . for having bigamously married a Locharbriggs shop assistant while his AWFUL WIFE was living."

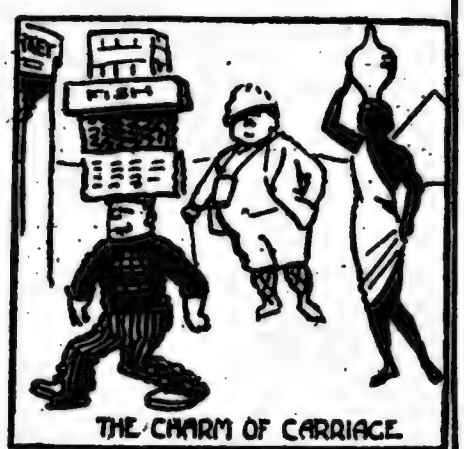
"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

There's one thing missing we would see—
And that's the word "Economy."



If nickel silver should replace,
What smiles will spread o'er Mond his face!

To Asquith Cecil hands some fat,
Who's certain to win after that



If Chesterton's idea were true,
Fish porters should be graceful, too.

Sir Auckland Geddes' little blunder
Should cause him to get out or under.

What can we think of Little Willie—
Is he sincere, or simply silly?

The praise of Asquith is suspect:
It has an opposite effect.

To guard the Kaiser seems the aim
Of Woodrow Wilson—to his shame.

GUARD against 'Flu by taking Genasprin daily. "Circulating in the blood," writes a prominent physician, "it distributes a powerful antiseptic all over the body, killing the microbes which are the cause of influenza."

GENASPRIN

(Brand of acetyl-salicylic acid)

Genasprin is really perfect aspirin — the purest safest brand — guaranteed free from irritant toxic acids, talc, borax, and harmful ingredients. Doesn't depress the heart or upset the digestion, but calms and refreshes the overwrought nerves. Equally beneficent for Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Neuritis, Sciatica and other Nerve Pains; also for Colds, Feverishness, Gout, Lumbago, Rheumatism, and Uric Acid Disorders. Buy a 2/- bottle (35 tablets) at your chemist's to-day, and take after meals—two tablets disintegrated in water.

GENATOSAN, LTD.
(British Purchasers of Sanatogen Co.)
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(Chairman: The Viscountess Rhondda.)

Don't confuse Genasprin with cheap inferior brands of aspirin

TO CURE RHEUMATISM WITHOUT DOSING
AND TO BANISH ANY
SERIOUS FOOT TROUBLES.

Painful gout, lumbago, sciatica, and other uric acid disorders, also any bad foot troubles, such as chilblains, schings, tenderness, callousness, corns, bunions, etc., disappear with remarkable rapidity. Champion boxers and other prominent men explain the benefits derived from baths in hot water containing the refined saltrates compound which all chemists can supply at slight cost. A marvellous substitute for costly Spa treatments.

Mr. A. F. Bettinson, Founder and Manager of the National Sporting Club, says:—"Personal use of saltrated water has satisfied me that no other preparation can equal your product for the many ailments for which you advocate its use."

A. F. Bettinson

Mr. Eugene Corri, of the National Sporting Club, and the world-famous referee, said:—"The medicated water stops any rheumatic pains in a few minutes. Just like a visit to a Spa."

Eugene Corri

Jimmy Wilde writes:—"I have found both boxing and military service especially hard on the feet, but never suffer any discomfort on that account myself. Why? Simply because I never neglect to rest my feet in saltrated water occasionally. It is the only way I know of to get rid of foot troubles and keep rid of them."

Jimmy Wilde

Georges Carpentier writes:—"Any foot troubles can be removed by simply dissolving a tablespoonful of Reudel Bath Saltrates in a foot-bath of hot water and immersing the feet for about 15-20 minutes in the medicated solution thus formed. All pain, smarting, burning, itching, stinging, etc., is drawn right out."

G. Carpentier

The above remarks are endorsed by the following:—**Joe Beckett,** Heavy-weight Champion of Great Britain, **Johnnie Basham, Eddie McGeorty, Fred Fulton, Billy Wells, Jim Sullivan, Young Healey, Ted Lewis** (trainer of Jimmy Wilde), **T. Descamps** (trainer of Georges Carpentier), and many other well-known men.

NOTE.—The wonderful curative baths referred to above are prepared by dissolving refined Reudel Bath Saltrates in hot water. About two tablespoonfuls are required for a full bath or a piled-up teaspoonful for a strong foot bath. This standard compound is very inexpensive, and exactly reproduces the highly medicated and oxygenated waters of famous natural curative springs.

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JOHN BULL AT PLAY.

RACING, FOOTBALL, BOXING AND OTHER SPORTING NOTES.

RACING.

We shall soon be having some public running to throw light on the Grand National, though we may not see Poethlyn out again before the day of the race. It is a little singular that both the favourites should have recently come to grief in home gallops. Happily these spills have not left any ill effects behind. We have had Troytown's little contretemps explained to us, and Mr. J. R. Anthony thinks very little the worse of his mount, for the accident took place at the smallest fence on the Curragh track. It was simply a case of a little liberty taken on the part of both the horse and his rider.

The small stable commission for Taffytus was invested at 40 to 1 before the Newmarket-trained horse won recently at Sandown Park. Vermouth's defeat at Lingfield rather dimmed the Esher performance of Leader's charge. As the son of Eavesdropper will be carrying silk again shortly, there should be no desperate hurry to back him at this stage. He will probably be as good a price on the day of the race.

Monteith has been supported by the right people for the Lincolnshire Handicap, and his owner has picked up all the long shots about his chestnut. One thing in favour of Monteith is that he will get the mile well. The question with us is, will he have the initial speed to "lay up" from the start? Bruff Bridge impresses us as the far speedier horse.

Nothing has of late been heard of Golden Fleece either in the wagering or in the training reports. We can inform those who have the slightest fancy for this very versatile performer that he is being prepared with a view to the Lincolnshire Handicap. Not only is he going on as well as can be wished, but he will see a much shorter price than 40 to 1.

Our congratulations to "Minting," of the *National News*, on his remarkable achievement last week in predicting nine winners and four seconds out of fourteen races. No wonder our Sunday contemporary is quickly forging ahead!

BOXING.

Carpentier's plans, a résumé of which appeared exclusively in the *National News* last Sunday, indicates that it is up to Mr. Cochran and Ted Rickard to come to an agreement. "I am not bartering for terms," says Carpentier, "and I have not thought or troubled about fighting for any other promoter than Mr. Cochran."

It seems certain that the fight will not come off in America. To be quite frank, all America blushes when you mention Jack Dempsey's war record, and he and his manager are barred from New Jersey. "Jack Dempsey," says Mr. Smith, President of the Commission which has been considering the fight proposals, "is not good enough for the State of New Jersey: . . . All red-blooded Americans should blush with shame when Dempsey's war record is mentioned." Well, if Dempsey is not good enough for America, we ought certainly to fight shy of him on our side of the water. Georges Carpentier has a fine war service record. Why should not he claim the world's title if Dempsey is so little thought of by his own countrymen—for, after all, the only thing that Dempsey has done was to punch a big, fat, hulking and untrained circus proprietor whom Jack Johnson could have beaten to a frazzle if it were not for the guns which would have been trained on him if he had beaten Jess Willard. The disclosures which we made at the time, based on the actual cables sent by the black, give food for thought to anyone who studies "form."

WEEK'S RACING SELECTIONS.

LUDLOW—WEDNESDAY.

Beginners' Chase—MASTER PICTON.
Bromfield Hurdle—*AVEZZANO.
Stewards' Chase—BALLINCARROONA.

LUDLOW—THURSDAY.

Caynham Hurdle—*INGOR.
Oakley Chase—RIPPLING WATER.
Novices' Hurdle—DEEVEE.

HURST PARK—FRIDAY.

Novices' Chase—*THE WISP.
Richmond Hurdle—A.A.
Amateur Chase—SALT SPRAY.
Petersham Hurdle—VIOLINIST.
Teddington Hurdle—HARE'S SELECTED

HURST PARK—SATURDAY.

Molesey Hurdle—POTENTATE.
Ditton Chase—*MACMERRY.
Weybridge Chase—STRAIGHT ON.
Palace Hurdle—JACK O' JINGLES.
Surbiton Hurdle—IRISH FAIR.

COURSING.

We have good authority for stating that Sir Robert Jardine's nomination is confidently expected to win the Waterloo Cup—the much-prized "blue ribbon" of the "doggy world."

Result of Football Competition No. 21.

Three of the Sixteen matches to be played on Saturday, February 7th, were drawn, and one—Hibernians *v.* Motherwell—was not played, thus leaving twelve winning teams.

Mr. W. J. Moran, of 52, Olinda Street, Portsmouth, was the only competitor who named 10 winning teams, and, therefore, wins the prize of £250.

This week, another £250 *must be won.* Do not fail to fill up the Free Coupon on page iii. of cover.

Result of Football Competition No. 20.

The result of this Competition is unprecedented. No fewer than 3,186 readers succeeded in sending in coupons with ten winning teams. In these circumstances, we have decided to offer all winners the alternative of either receiving the proportion of the prize to which they are entitled—3s. 2d.—or of competing in a special new Football Competition confined to these winners only, with a first prize of £500, and a special extra prize of £50, both of which *must be won.* Every winner has been notified to this effect. Even though a certain proportion of the winners may decide to accept the 3s. 2d., we shall still put up the £500 and £50 prizes to be competed for among the remainder of the winners.

We think that our readers will agree that this is an eminently fair way of dealing with the matter.

A complete list of the successful competitors has been printed, and a copy will be forwarded to any reader on receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope marked "List" in the top left-hand corner.

As will be seen from the result of Competition No. 21, printed above, it is extremely improbable that there will be so large a number of prize-winners in any future contest

FOOTBALL.

Even though those old rivals Aston Villa and Sunderland are drawn together, we think it will be admitted on all hands that the tit-bits of Saturday's third round Cup Ties will be the meeting at White Hart Lane, of the Spurs and West Ham. Writing for the *National News*, Mr. H. C. Littlewort, the well-known English amateur international, points out that League form for Cup Ties is "fodder for fools." This is verily a truism, and therefore the two clubs' present positions in the League table need not be taken into account. We are big admirers of the Spurs' fine form this season, but we are mindful of the Hammers' big victory over Bury a fortnight ago in the competition—a verdict which the Lancashire side promptly reversed when the two sides met last week in a League game. All the same, I can hardly see the Spurs bidding farewell to the Cup on Saturday.

The Villa and Sunderland game will attract all Midland interest, and we regret that the Villa directors have decided to double the price of admission. The reason given for this is that it is done in the hope that the attendance will be reduced, in order that there may be nothing in the way of the match being played to a finish. If they were going to limit the attendance to say 40,000 to attain this end—the ground will hold 60,000—there would be justification for their decision, but from our information there is no intention of doing this, and therefore it looks to us like two wealthy clubs arranging to do a "big profiteering deal" at the expense of their supporters.

We seem to see a little pandering to the Corinthians by the English Selection Committee, by the inclusion of the Corinthian, R. W. Sloley, to play at inside left in the trial game. He is untried, in the sense that prior to this season his experience has been confined to football much below the class of representative games. Besides, he is given preference over Bliss, of Tottenham, for the position. The Spurs man has played consistently well at inside-left this season, but to make room for Sloley he is crossed over to inside right. Surely this is most unfair to Bliss. At any rate, to our mind, it is a great injustice to him and is likely to create a false impression with those who have the welfare of the game at heart.

LAWN TENNIS.

Time was when the word "professional" was anathema to the dignitaries of the Lawn Tennis Association. These are wonderful days, however, so we need not be surprised at the L.T.A. having taken over the control of the Professional Lawn Tennis Championship in response to the splendid initiative of Mr. Donald Mcleod, a member of the Queen's Club, who last year gave a 100-guinea Challenge Cup for which C. Hierons, most popular of lawn tennis coaches, issued a challenge. The challenge was unaccepted, but now Charles H. Read, another of the Queen's Club professionals, has entered the lists with backing for a match of £200 aside. Other challenges can be sent in up to March 1st, and it will be interesting to see how the professors of the game, who usually hide their abilities in the giving of lessons and the tedium of playing "pat ball" with novices, can disport themselves when put to a serious test.

Apart from the interests of the professionals themselves, there is behind this movement the general welfare of a game at which recently we have been beaten by players from abroad. The desire of those supporting it is that the young players of this country should have the full benefit of professional coaches.

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IMAGINE, if you can, the delicious flavour of the finest fruits and you will have some idea of the juicy fruity flavour of WRIGLEY'S JUICY FRUIT.

Imagine, too, those luscious flavours in the long-lasting form of a Bar of Chewing Gum, bearing the world-famous brand name of Wrigley's.

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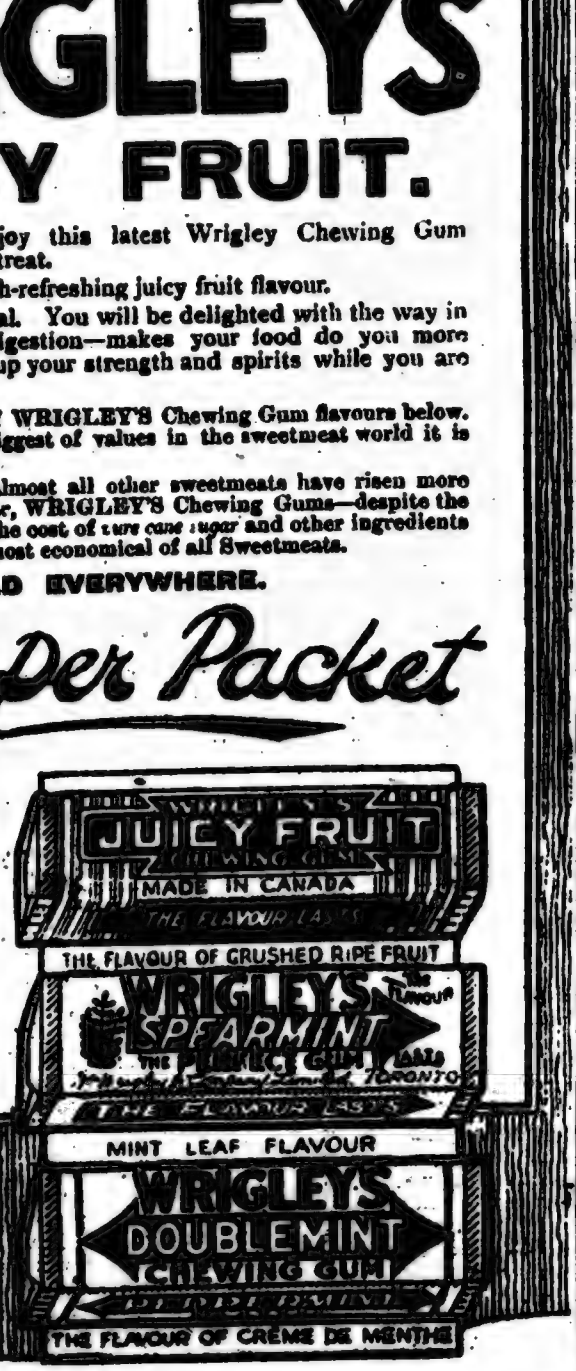

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"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 10th August, 1916.

"TOMMY."

Air Force Again:—This is an Air Force Order issued at Halton Camp:—"All ranks will wear brass buttons and will carry regimental canes on C.O.'s parade." Tunics are issued with leather buttons, and the Tommies are supposed to purchase brass sets at the cost of 3s. 2d., whereas in honesty they should be a free issue. The swagger cane costs 1s. 9d., and the price here also comes out of the man's pay. Again, a number of airmen reached Halton the other day *after* the riots and are asked to pay for barrack damages that were incurred before their arrival. For Heaven's sake, hold an inquiry and improve matters before worse befalls. Halton was formed by Nature for an earthly paradise—we are afraid it is far from it.

Dirty in Ireland:—The 1st Battalion of the Essex Regiment, in Kinsale Barracks, tell us that their quarters are filthy, and that every day men are punished for not having their equipment spick and span, although they have no facilities for keeping it clean. No doubt, the C.O. will cast his eye around. If not, we must address the General commanding the Cork District.

Peeping Tom:—In the district of Calais is an officer who seems to draw his pay by manufacturing crime. At night he hides in the shades of the Rue Royal, Calais, and jumps out on and "crimes" men who do not see him in his lair, and therefore do not salute him. Again, he sometimes offers a Tommy a lift in his motor-car at night and does not drive him to his camp, but to the Guard Room, where he is locked up for being "drunk." If Mr. Churchill wishes for the name of this "officer and gentleman" we shall be glad to supply it.

"JACK."

That Prize Money:—We have a barrage fire of letters asking us when the prize money will be shared out. Can't say. There was to have been a provisional issue last year, and we understand that the whole job was to have been completed this month. But cheer up, Jack. We gather that you fellows who are entitled to "beans" will receive about £2 per skull, which, at the present rate of profiteering, will mean about half.

More Money:—Officers and men concerned in the salving of the following ships should receive their "dibblers" from the Accountant-General of the Navy—s.s. *Venus* by H.M. Tug *Sprite* on the 5th of May, 1919, and s.s. *Hermione*, by H.M.S. *Daffodil*, on April 14th, 1917. We acknowledge letters of thanks for these notices. Always glad to be of service.

Room for Improvement:—Many coastguards have written to us, asking us to appeal to the Admiralty to pay them weekly, instead of monthly. At present, owing to the pay conditions, the men have to deal with shopkeepers, who give them credit and rob them, whereas if they had ready cash they might deal where they pleased, and get more or less honest treatment. Whitehall, kindly note.

Demobilisation:—When the word went around officially that men in the Navy might claim free discharge if they could prove that they had guaranteed work to go to ashore, every Jack said "Ha, ha! now I shall become a civilian." But no. The concession is to be made to one in each hundred A.B.s who applied, and so on through all the ratings. Those who cannot "get the bird" through free discharge may, however, put down the dollars and purchase themselves out.

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Economy and Delay:—This is the case of an officer Badger. The sum of 6s. 6d. was due to him, and a correspondence ensued between himself and Messrs. Cox's Bank, with the Scottish Command Paymaster thrown in. The justice of the claim, it should be said, had been officially admitted. However, it required the passing of as many as 34 letters to and fro before the officer received the 78 pence! We remember that the late Mark Twain had a similar story concerning the American Army, but it went on for half a century. Our friend was lucky to receive his 6s. 6d. in a less period, but in the meantime the case will have affected our income-tax demands!

The King's Fund:—This fund is now practically a thing of the past. During its career, as with the Civil Liabilities Fund, it was sometimes open to criticism, but the fault usually rested with the outlying Committees.

Milner's Mission:—Before we write "R.I.P." we must pay a tribute to the splendid work done by Sir Frederick Milner, not only on behalf of applicants but in having beneficial reforms carried out. His genuine labour of love costs him twelve hours a day, Sundays included, for five years; and if all the members of the Administration had been fired with his enthusiasm we might have written of the Fund as an unqualified success. Hats off to Sir Frederick!

The "Local People":—We have often commented upon the lapses on the part of local War Pensions Committees. The vast majority of these bodies, we know, are composed of big-hearted people, who are out to do their very best for the soldier, the ex-soldier and his dependents. Try them—and tell us if they are found wanting.

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

[The object of our Fund is to relieve (a) the dependents of our Soldiers and Sailors, and (b) suffering amongst the people generally. No genuine appeal is ever refused, and although we see to it that adequate proof is presented in every case relieved, no harassing or degrading questions are put to applicants. Will you please help? We gladly defray all expenses of administration.]

A Very Hard Case:—A man who fought for the flag and all that it stands for, has a small pension—but, being unable to pay his rent for some weeks, had his wife, kiddies, and himself thrown out on to the road by a well-fed country squire.

So Common:—An ex-soldier cannot get a job. His little baby is dead, and there was no money to pay for its burial.

The "Sunken Tenth":—Campbell Road, Finsbury Park, is supposed to be the resort of the "submerged." But many honest poor live there. One case from it concerned an ex-soldier who cannot find work. He has a wife and little kiddie. Everything had been pawned to provide food.

Poor Fellow:—A man who went over the top, and fought for us all, cannot get a job, like thousands of others. He has four little ones who were hungry and in rags, and his anxious wife is arranging as best she can for an addition to the family

Turned Down:—A civilian who is deaf and cannot find work, has two little children to provide for, and they needed clothing.

The Last Resort:—An ex-soldier is one of the many thousands who cannot find employment. He had visited the pawnbroker to keep things going for himself, wife, and children, and was heavily in debt until we lightened his burden.

His Comrade in Distress:—Another veteran has a wife who is seriously ill, and four little ones. He was dependent upon the kindness of his neighbours.

The Dead of the Poor:—During the week we sent money to nine families for the purpose of burying their dead. Unfortunately, in these days of hardship many of our poor find it impossible to spare their club and insurance benefits, so that when the time comes their dead are in danger of the much-dreaded pauper's funeral

DEATH AND BIRTH.

(A case typical of the many of distress and hardship which have been relieved by our Fund during the week.)

The untimely death of the husband and father at the early age of 34 years is responsible for the sad plight of a Wolverhampton family whom it has been our privilege to assist. While still strong and active it was all the poor fellow could do to support his family of seven children, the eldest 11 years of age; and, as may be imagined, there was no provision of any sort against the unlooked for events of his illness and death. In any case it would have been almost impossible for the widow, with a baby still in arms, to take the place of the breadwinner; add to this that since her husband's death, less than a month ago, she has become the mother of twins, making nine dependent children in all to claim her constant care. Friends are doing what little they can to help, but until the mother's convalescence is complete it is impossible to make plans for the future; in the meantime the little mouths must be fed and the decencies of the home preserved. A call of this sort, backed by the silent appeal of these nine helpless children, is one that as long as our Fund exists we are in duty bound to honour. Hardhearted logic might point to the workhouse as the natural refuge for the orphaned mites—but with the instinct that is so common among the self-respecting poor, the mother shrinks from this harsh solution of her troubles; her very natural desire is for a little breathing space after the ordeal of death and birth, so that if possible relief may be found without breaking up the home. The grant from our "Greatest of These" Fund came in the nick of time. We cannot believe that our readers will allow this good work to falter for lack of their accustomed aid.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

"Mother and Dad" (Glasgow), 5s.; E. M. A. (Paignton), £1; Anon., 1s.; "W.," £1; "Broomhill," 3s.; A. E. F., 10s.; J. W., 2s.; "Mother," 2s.; "Hopeful Competitor," 1s.; "Justice," 5s.; J. A. P. (Bexar Bridge), 10s.; "Reclaimed Tax," £1; "Bulletitis," 1s.; "In Memory of L. A. L." (Wellingboro'), 2s. 6d.; D. W. J. (Whitchurch), 1s.; C. M. J. (Reading), 2s. 6d.; "Salonique," 2s. 6d.; A. J. D. (Winchester), £1; "Two Old Readers" (Newton Heath), 2s.; "Merchant Service," 2s. 6d.; "Anti-Yankee," 10s.; "Pan," 6d.; L. C. P. (Highbury), £1; "Kat's Eye," 1s.; G. C., 2s.; Anon., 2s.; "A Soldier's Widow," 3s.; A. McL. (Kelso), 5s.; H. K. S. (York), 1s.; A. B. (Old Kent Road), 2s. 6d.; J. T. (Griffithstown), £1; "Zanbar," 2s.; J. W. (Harringay), 2s.; E. S. (Ilkley), £1; "Gran" (Horsham), 2s.; G. R. (S. Shields), 5s.; J. H. B. (Harrow), 1s.; "In Loving Memory of My Darling Son," £1; "Avenue" (St. Albans), 5s.; W. M. (Finsbury Park), 1s.; G. P. (Eastleigh), 1s. 6d.; "Ivanhoe," 10s.; "Fag," £1; P. Q., 3d.; L. D., 1s. 6d.; A. E. B. (Wavertree), 2s. 6d.; R. J. J. (Winton), 5s.; G. A. P. (Sheffield), 2s. 6d.; Pte. C. C., 2s. 6d.; R. G. (Macclesfield), 1s.; "Matt and Elsie," 5s.; Mrs. C., 1s.; M. J. D. (Portbcawl), 5s.; E. B., 1s.; "Buttons" (Sydenham), 1s.; "A Scot," 10s.; J. C. B. (Pompey), 2s. 6d.; W. H. G. (Kettering), £5; "Punch," 10s.; J. A. M., 10s.; M. N., 10s.; "Western Cornubian," £21; M. W. (Guise), 1s.; "Detroit," 10s.; "Harbourite," 5s.; J. L. (Bombay), 7s.; Anon., 3s.; Mrs. S. G. F. (Fazeranporth), £1; S. G. T. (Toronto), 5s.; "S. Ealing Reader," 2s.; J. S., 2s.

A Personal Appeal:—When the papers were publishing accounts of the fine things done in the war by our soldiers and sailors our little fund was splendidly supported. But we fear that many of our charitable friends have made up their minds that, as the war is over, distress has diminished. Quite the contrary, unfortunately. In London there are about 10,000 officers alone looking for employment. And casting our eyes to Irelahd, there are about 4,000 ex-soldiers in similar plight in Dublin—and heaven alone knows how many others in the provinces—*all* volunteers, as the Conscription Act never applied to that country. These men are refused employment unless they become Sinn Feiners. Will you, please, help?

No More Facial Eczema

Are you suffering from eczema, either on face, neck, or behind your ears? If so, what you want to know is how to get rid of your trouble, once and for all. To do this use Antexema, which cures after all else has failed. The instant Antexema touches the irritated spot all itching disappears, and soon your skin illness is ended. Pimples, bad legs, bad hands, scalp troubles, chaps, chilblains, eczema, and all other skin ailments are cured by Antexema. It is not an ointment, but a creamy liquid, and is invisible on the skin.

Get Antexema To-day

All chemists and stores, also Boots', Lewis and Burrows', Taylor's Drug Co., Timothy White's, and Parke's, supply Antexema at 1s. 3d. and 3s., or direct post free in plain wrapper, 1s. 6d. and 3s., from Antexema, Castle Laboratory, London, N.W.1. Also throughout India, Australasia, Canada, Africa, and Europe.

QUACKERY AND VENEREAL DISEASE.

No sane person would consult a quack about a dangerous disease. Yet hundreds of men and women rush off to these people as soon as they suspect Venereal infection, a disease which emphatically demands expert medical skill and attention.

To consult quacks is to add futility to foolishness. Quacks cannot cure. They tinker: gradually depriving their victims of courage as well as of cash, while the disease, though sometimes apparently better, grows in reality obstinately worse. At times the removal of symptoms produces a false sense of security, but the disease is still there—hidden in the system. It often reappears after several years to cripple permanently.

Quack treatment is not only expensive; it is disappointing, it is injurious, it is illegal.

There is evidence to prove that unscrupulous, unqualified people have been telling infected men and women that the medical treatment provided by the Government involves risks. This is not the case, and its sole object is to keep the deluded victims in their own clutches. The risks are obviously on the side of quackery.

The only sure road to recovery is to seek proper medical attention immediately any exposure to infection has taken place, or is suspected. Treatment is provided at the Out-Patients' Department of the nearest hospital or clinic, and is given free as well as under conditions of secrecy.

These who are in any doubt or difficulty should write in confidence for information and free literature to N.C.C.V.D., 34, Avenue Chambers, Vernon Place, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1, marking the envelope "Medical." The National Council provides neither prescriptions nor drugs.

This announcement is issued by the National Council for combating Venereal Diseases, a responsible body recognised by the Government. President: Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham. Vice-Presidents: Sir Thomas Barlow, Bart., K.C.V.O., M.D., Sir Francis Champneys, Bart., M.D. Chairman of Propaganda: Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O., F.R.C.S.E. General Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E.

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MARVELLOUS MEDICINE?

Soothing yet searching in their action Ker-nak Pills give just the natural assistance the system needs to ensure well-balanced health. They tone up your stomach and improve digestion, regulate the bowels, purify the blood and restore energy and healthy appetite. Compounded from herbal medicaments Ker-nak Pills prove beneficial to thousands who cannot take weakening mineral pills and old-style physic.

TO OBTAIN A FREE SAMPLE BOX OF KER-NAK

send a P.C. to Kernak Natural Remedy Ltd., Leeds. Mention JOHN BULL (21/2/20) and the sample will be sent post-paid and Free of Charge.

For Stomach Liver & Bowels

Where Milton is Influenza isn't

Influenza

Tests by the best known bacteriologists in Britain have proved that a teaspoonful of Milton in a tumbler of water (cold, tepid or warm) will annihilate the Influenza germ at once.

Don't get Influenza

You can avoid it—easily—simply

The germ of Influenza enters the body only through the nose or throat—in no other way. It lodges in the nostrils or the mouth and is swallowed or inhaled into the system.

The Chief Precaution

Add a teaspoonful of MILTON to a tumbler of water (tepid or cold). Use this as a mouth-wash and gargle, and spray some of the mixture up the nostrils. Do this two or three times daily, particularly before breakfast and before meals. Quite simple and not unpleasant, but it keeps Influenza away. During the last deadly epidemic thousands of people found complete immunity from "Flu" by using MILTON even when surrounded by infection. Read the surprising facts in the little panel at foot.

Ask your Dealer for the Milton Influenza Leaflet: the information contained in this :: :: will interest you. :: ::

1/3 & 2/6 BOTTLE

Your Dealer sells it

MILTON

ANTISEPTIC

Does 101 Things

and what is more it DOES them

Milton makes you wonder every time you use it. Its uses are so many and so different, and it seems unbelievable that any one preparation can serve so many purposes. Yet, have you ever found it fail to DO whatever we claim for it?

The hundred and one uses are fully described in the Milton Booklet which comes with each bottle. Look for this Booklet when buying.

MILTON MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., 125 Bunhill Row, LONDON, E.C. 64 Wellington Street, GLASGOW. 37 Piccadilly, MANCHESTER. 5 Cope Street, DUBLIN.

A Startling Fact

In a department of the Army Sorting Office at the London General Post Office last winter they were losing clerks at the rate of 10 and 12 every day from Influenza. At the worst stage of the epidemic the Q.M.S. heard of MILTON, bought a bottle, and ordered a gargling parade. The result startled him and the clerks. Daily, from then on, each clerk paraded and gargled with Milton, and from the first day onwards not a single case of Influenza developed, not one single loss from 'Flu occurred in the staff. Ask the Q.M.S. about it.

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

15/- per line.

BEDDING BARGAINS. HEAVY WHITE FLEECY BLANKETS, 72in. by 90in., double bed, 14/6 per pair, better quality, 66in. by 90in., 16/11 per pair. ALHAMBRA QUILTS, floral design, 12/ each. TWO PILLOW CASES, ONE BOLSTER CASE, extra quality, concealed buttons, 8/6 per set. Total worth at present shop prices, £3 12s. Our price, carriage paid for the above bale, 65/. Cash returned if not satisfied.—NORTH BRITISH TRADING CO. (Dept. N), Burnley, Lancashire.

BARBOUR.—Will George Barbour, sometime of Croydon, please communicate with his sister L., Box 472, Robertson & Scott, 21, Hanover St., Edinburgh.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission, highest paid.—Apply Freeman, Contractors H.M. Govt., Lavender Mill, London.

BEST and CHEAPEST Wholesale Warehouse for Beginners, Remnants, Drapery, Needymaker, Travellers Samples. Send for Catalogue free.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

HARRIS Tweeds, direct from Scotland; genuine hand made, hard-wearing, all wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer, 11s. 6d. a yard; coloured patterns post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 34), 56, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland.

BOOTS.—4s. Saved. Buy Direct from our Northampton Factory. Gents', Ladies' and Children's Boots. Send for catalogue.—John Noble, Ltd. Dept. 7, Northampton.

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30/-. Ladies' leather shoes, all sizes, cash with order (Money back guarantee). Orders treated in strict rotation. Goods sent carriage paid. Real Bargains.—Freeman, 14, Stonefield Street, London, N.

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GERAUDEL'S PASTILLES for Cough, Bronchitis, Sore Throat. Half a century reputation. Boots and all chemists.

HOUSEHOLD MAGIC for Chaps, Chilblains, Colds, Cuts and Burns, is only 1/3 per tin. Hemocea Ointment touches the spot (all Chemists and Stores). Free sample 3½d.—Hemocea, Willesden, N.W.10.

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ACCOUNTANCY, SECRETARYSHIP, BUSINESS TRAINING.—An appointments bureau (free) is open to all qualified students of the Metropolitan College—the 'Varsity of Secretarial and Accountancy Training. Specialised Postal Courses (practical training and examcoaching) taken at home in spare time, under the most highly qualified staff in the Kingdom, comprising many Final Honourmen, Chartered Accountants and Barristers-at-Law. Fees are most moderate, and may be paid by instalments. Write to-day (postcard will suffice) for list of recent appointments vacant, particulars of scholarship scheme and copy of "Student's Guide," free of charge or obligation.—Metropolitan College, Dept. 31, St. Albans.

SACCHARINE TABLETS.—Prices: 500 3/9, 1,000 6/6, post free. Larger quantities at special prices.—D. Doyle (Dept. J.B.), 16, Drummond Crescent, Euston, London, N.W. Tablets manufactured for the Trade.

LADIES' HANDKERCHIEF BARGAINS.—Hemstitched Irish Linen, 11 ins., 7s. 6d. dozen; Gents.' Size 16 ins., 10s. 6d. dozen; postage 3d. Send for monthly Bargain List to-day, free.—HUTTON'S, 199, Larne, Ireland.

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25/-. Gents' leather shoes, all sizes, cash with order (Money back guarantee.) Orders treated in strict rotation. Goods sent carriage paid. Real Bargains.—Freeman 14, Stonefield Street, London, N.

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SAVES the cost of Furnishing a Bedroom

Consists of folding wood frame with bottom part, shelf and row of hooks. Erected in a minute or two. Draped in beautiful Cretonne. Easily dismantled. A great boon in flats and small houses. 3ft. wide. Price 77/6, carriage paid anywhere. Satisfaction Guaranteed or money back.

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JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

FINANCIAL NOTES—AND ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By Our City Editor.

All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.

Each enquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.

Kaffir Returns.

Up to the end of last year most of the mining companies on the Rand made their returns on the basis of gold at the old standard of 85s. per oz. "fine," although the price had already soared to well over 100s. The quarterly reports of the "Johnnies" group gave the first clear indication of the effect the rise in the price of gold might be expected to have, for they showed that the premium obtained on the metal amounted to considerably more than the working profit calculated on the old basis. Consequently the returns for January which have made their appearance are being watched with exceptional interest. The "Johnnies" group take the average price of gold at 107s. 6d., and the profits show a substantial increase over December, although the gains are not so sensational as some people expected. This is doubtless due to putting through the mill a larger proportion of low grade ore than could previously be treated at a profit, and no one can object to this prudent policy being adopted. Anyhow, the market is determined to take a cheerful view of the outlook and it has been showing signs of something like its old liveliness.

Non-Profiteering Results.

At the meeting of Bovril Ltd. last year the chairman, Mr. Lawson Johnston, claimed tha Bovril was about the only article of genera consumption which had not been raised in price. The cost of production had increased, but they were able to sell at the old figure, and he pointed out that in order to earn an extra 1 per cent., tax free, on the Deferred shares it would be necessary to get an additional £53,000 out of their customers, of which the Government would take £46,000 in the shape of income tax and excess profit. He objected to being a tax collector for the Government, and his policy has certainly been justified by results. Trading profits in the past year amounted to £512,000, an increase of £128,000, and the nett profits were £67,000 higher at £248,000. Consequently the dividend on the Deferred shares can be raised from 4½ per cent. tax free to 8 per cent. less tax, a net increase of over 2 per cent., and at the same time £20,000 more is placed to reserve and a much larger balance is carried forward. Evidently Mr. Johnston's statement a year ago proved an excellent advertisement, and his task at the meeting was of the pleasantest.

RAILWAYS AND STATE CONTROL.

Whatever the miners and railwaymen may say to the contrary, public opinion is setting more and more decidedly against socialistic fads in the direction of nationalisation. Experience of bureaucratic control during and since the war has been too painfully illuminating to be tolerated a day longer than can possibly be helped. Of course, a certain margin must be allowed for the transition period between war and normal conditions, but everyone desires the shackles of Control to be taken off. Take the railways, for instance, in which a "trifle" of £1,300,000,000 has been invested. The results for the past year have just been announced, and on the whole they are very favourable, thanks to the "side-shows," which the Government could not interfere with, and to interest on accumulated funds which prudent management had set aside against a rainy day. Consequently most of the big companies are able to pay larger dividends—in several cases higher than the pre-war level—and you can buy the very best Ordinary stocks to return from 8 to 9 per cent. That is a state of affairs which is utterly illogical and demoralising. In a properly established community there cannot be a better investment than the great arteries of transport which the railways provide. Next to Government loans, they are the best security a country can offer. Yet we have our North Western and Great Western, North Eastern and Midland on a basis of about 8½ per cent., because the Government cannot make up its mind what it is going to do against the time when the systems have to be handed back to their owners, or else taken over by the State on the terms laid down by Act of Parliament, in 1844. The natural consequence is that urgent renewals are being shamefully neglected, because directors and managers do not know where they stand or what their position will be two years hence. Uncertainty is always fatal to business; in this case it prevents railway stocks reaching a level which would allow of fresh capital being raised on reasonable terms, and without additional capital many desirable improvements must be indefinitely postponed. All incentive to progress and the emulation of healthy competition are thereby destroyed—not because the individual staffs are sluggish or indifferent, but because they are hopelessly hampered by red-tape entanglements.

A Rhodesian Row.

There is trouble in the Globe and Phœnix camp, with Mr. H. G. Latilla and the Rhodesia Exploration Co. intervening. A majority of the Globe directors want the summary execution of two of their colleagues, but it would require a wizard of the North to discover precisely what the squabble is about. Apparently the Globe and Phœnix, which is getting near the end of its payable ore (even with the famous "John Bull" reef thrown in), has been trying to secure certain claims from the Rhodesia Exploration Co., for which it offered £5,000 each in cash or alternatively to work them on tribute with an option to purchase. The owners modestly asked for 800,000 Globe shares of 10s. each—but how the fat got into the fire when it would have been far more profitable to get the gold out of the ground, passes my comprehension.

Gorgeous Tobacco Profits.

It has been estimated that the country is now spending about twice as much on its smokes as the army cost before the war, and I can believe it after looking at the figures of the Imperial Tobacco Co. In the year to October 31, it made a net profit of £4,663,000, or £840,000 more than in the previous twelve months, after providing for excess duty and all other charges. Reserves, etc., get £1,200,000 and a dividend of 15 per cent. is declared, leaving £613,000 to be carried forward subject to the balance of customers' bonus. It should be explained that the dividend is equivalent to 30 per cent. on the capital a year ago, as the amount was doubled by a bonus distribution and the offer of new shares at par. That is not so "dusty," and there is surely a sufficient margin of profit to avoid the necessity of raising retail prices further.

Spiers and Pond.

There have been some extraordinary vicissitudes in the history of this company, and the last reconstruction evidently proved sufficiently drastic. Thanks to that and the prosperity which all catering firms have been enjoying, the directors are in a position to recommend a distribution of bonus shares in the proportion of one new share for every five held and at the same time to offer an equal number for subscription at par. As the shares are worth round 31s., these operations will provide the shareholders with a welcome little present which no one will grudge them after their past losses.

OUR FINANCIAL LETTER BAG.

EDITORIAL REPLIES.

(All enquiries must be accompanied by a postal order for 1s., and bear the full name and address of correspondent as evidence of good faith.)

G. H. J. (Altrincham).—*Hare Spinning Co*: I have not seen any recent reports, but the company ought to have been doing well lately, in spite of the recent litigation.——R. G. C. (care of G.P.O.).—*Direct Fish Supplies*: The company has good backing and ought to do well, although it must be regarded as speculative. I think the shares were well subscribed.——G. M. (Hinderwell).—*Traders and General Insurance*: I do not think much of the company's prospects; you cannot, however, back out now. *Lancs. Power Construction*: The Preference shares are a sound investment.——A. B. (Belfast).—*Witwatersrand (Knights)*.—Better hold a little longer, as the market is improving.——S. P. H. (Keynsham). *Falcons*: The shares are decidedly speculative, but the market outlook is favourable.——Jam (Grimsby).—*Home and Colonial Fishing*: You ought certainly to have received the certificate by now. Write again. I am afraid you have made a bad investment.——Securities (Mulpas).—*Rapid Rims*: Prospects are fairly good; keep them at any rate till they are fully-paid. *Wm. Gossage Preference*: You should hold on; they are a sound industrial investment.——H. E. (Ockley).—*Carnarvon Pencil Syndicate*: It seems a fair enough arrangement. I have not sufficient information to judge of the prospects.——R. M. N. (Grimsby).—*United Service Transport*: The company has strong backing and capable management so it should do well. It would be a pity to dispose of your shares at this early stage, before the necessary spade work is completed.—Maurice (Morecambe).—*Standard Newspapers*: Write to the liquidator or to the Official Receiver, Carey St., W.C. I do not think there will be anything left for the shareholders after the creditors are satisfied.——Mrs. L. A. J. (Treherbert).—*Jeffree Line*: I regard the shares as very speculative and unsuitable for a small investment. I have replied in these terms to many correspondents of late.——W. G. L. (Newport, I.O.W.).—*British Premium Securities*: I advise you not to have any dealings with these people.——A. C. (Sittingbourne).—Both the firms mentioned are reliable. The best in your list are *Ferreira Deep, Globe and Phœnix* and *British Central Africa*.——Perplexed (Westcliff).—*India Stock*: I do not think you should sell at present The existing troubles will pass away in due course.——S. M. (Littleborough).—*Willys—Overland-Crossley*: This is a perfectly sound industrial investment. I do not like the *Traders and General Insurance*, and regard its prospects as very doubtful.——L. C. (Dartford).—*London Catering Co.*: I do not advise you to have anything to do with the business.——W. M. (Dennistown).—*Straits Coconut*: I am sorry to say the shares are absolutely worthless.——G. W. (Hampstead).—*Artizans Land and Mortgage*: The company disappeared years ago and the shares have no value whatever.——Musicus (Lichfield).—*Rio Negro*: Good to hold, as conditions in Argentina are improving.——Miss C. S. (Reading):—I am sorry to say that the shares in *Nakamura Asphalt* are worthless. I have repeatedly warned readers not to touch them.——F. M. W. (Tate).—*Maikop Pipeline* shares are about 6s., and *Black Sea Amalgamation* about 4s. I have not seen any recent price for *Maikop Midland*. All these companies would have had fair prospects but for recent developments in Russia, the end of which cannot be foreseen. If your loss is already heavy I should run the balance on the off chance of an improvement. There is oil on the properties, and the world needs it.

(A considerable number of replies are held over for lack of space, but every endeavour is being made to answer them promptly by post.)

COMPANY MEETINGS.

BOVRIL.

Presiding at the Annual General Meeting of Bovril, Limited, the Chairman pointed out that as a result of a strenuous year's work the Company had achieved a gross profit on trading of £512,016, or £127,930 more than in the previous twelve months, the net profit being £247,878.

"Most of the shareholders," the Chairman proceeded, "were aware of the determined stand the Company had taken against making Bovril a factor in the rise in the cost of food, and it was with no little pride that they were able to say, 'Bovril is the same price, and of the same quality, to-day, as it was on the fateful 4th of August, 1914.'

"I am willing to confess to you," said Mr. Johnston, "that at times we have had misgivings as to whether we could hold out against ever-rising costs, but year after year we have come before you with a similar pronouncement, and you have been good enough to trust us while we carried through our policy. That it would redound to Bovril's credit I have never doubted, but one could not feel the same certainty that, while we were solidifying our financial position, and acquiring the goodwill of our consumers even beyond all our anticipations, we would be able, in addition, to present to our shareholders a profit surpassing all previous records.

"It is almost a hackneyed phrase to say nowadays, 'Bovril did not profiteer,' but, when I prophesied here two years ago that Bovril would become famous because 'It had had its opportunity, but did not profiteer,' there were, I think, few who estimated how the intensity of feeling would rise against those who had really overcharged, particularly on necessary domestic requirements.

"The hunt after profiteers nowadays is an interesting study. A statement was made last month that the profits of the yarn spinners were 400 per cent. to 3,200 per cent. greater than the profit allowed by the War Office during control. For a week or two we read about nothing but wool. Few people outside Yorkshire were able to follow the somewhat technical discussion that took place as to the extent of the profit-making, but I barely saw a reference to the efficiency of the War Office department that had held these tendencies in check till last April."

Turning to the problem which had been presented by the shortage of bottles, the Chairman pointed out that prices for English-made bottles had been soaring until they had had to pay about 200 per cent. more than before the war.

Passing to other war-time changes, Mr. Johnston said that one of the effects of the Advisory Committee system during the war had been that former competitors in the same trades got to know one another. These ex-competitors, once acquainted, frequently appreciated that the "parallel" manufacturer was not the enemy, but that possibly the enemy was the supplier of the raw material on the one hand, or the middleman on the other. In his opinion "horizontal" combinations of a trade which were large enough to hold up the industry at one stage were an unsatisfactory product of the war period. The amalgamations that should be encouraged were those of manufacturers of the various stages from the raw-material producer down to the distributor. He did not say this because that was the Bovril method, but it was obvious that economy could be effected in many trades if the management understood, not one process only, but the whole series of processes from start to finish. If such "perpendicular" amalgamations became more numerous, the result would be competition between these "upright" groups, and thus the consumer might hope to come into his own again.

The popularity of Bovril among small investors had been strikingly shown last year when a subscription list for £300,000 Six per Cent. notes was seventeen times over-subscribed.

The report and accounts were adopted, and the other formal business transacted.

NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION, LIMITED.

The Statutory Meeting of the members of the National Mining Corporation, Ltd., was held on February 12th at River Plate House, London, E.C.2, Mr. Herbert Guedalla (the chairman of the company) presiding.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, we are holding this first meeting of the Corporation to present to you the report and accounts made up in due form in accordance with the Companies' Acts. The share capital of £2,500,000 in shares of £1 each has been fully subscribed, and there has been called up 5s. on account of each share, making a total of £625,000.

It is not possible to disguise the fact that during the short period of our existence a certain amount of cash profit has been realised, and this accounts for the item "Other receipts £24,044." On the payments side of the accounts you will note that the net amount of our investments, less realisations, on the date of the report, represented a total of £281,458, whilst we had a cash balance of £345,891. The investments, with one small exception, are all in freely marketable securities, and at the present time show a not unimportant appreciation. We have had several profitable transactions, and have much important business in hand. Whilst it would not be wise to divulge our business in detail, I think that you are entitled to know that we have acquired an important interest in the shares of the Burma Corporation at satisfactory prices. Some of us have a knowledge of the intrinsic value and prospects of this magnificent property, and we have every reason to believe that this holding will be a lucrative investment.

Since the date of the Prospectus I am happy to inform you that Sir H. S. Barnes and Mr. E. C. Lewis, as representing certain interests, have joined the Board, and I have no doubt that their knowledge and experience in their respective spheres will prove of great advantage to us. With regard to organisation, we have appointed Mr. F. W. Baker and Mr. B. Kitzinger to be joint Managing Directors of the Corporation, and I can assure you that they have plenty to do. To assist these gentlemen we have appointed what we term a technical committee, which consists of Mr. J. A. Agnew, Mr. A. S. Elmore, and Mr. Walter McDermott to examine from the technical point of view the multifarious schemes which are presented for our consideration. In the opinion of your directors we are now fully equipped for carrying out the purposes for which the Corporation was formed. Before passing on, perhaps I ought to refer to and explain an incident which led to a few complaints in connection with the allotment of our shares. We were desirous of undertaking an important piece of business which demanded prompt attention, and as some of you doubtless are aware, two million of the shares of the Corporation had been applied for firm by the directors and the associated groups when the Prospectus was published. The remaining £500,000 shares were offered for subscription at par, and were largely over-subscribed. In order to deal with the business which we had on hand we determined to allot the two million shares at once, and to proceed with the allotment of the remaining 500,000 shares as quickly as possible. I feel certain that I am speaking for the whole of the Board when I say that it was the greatest surprise to them to find that the Stock Exchange started dealings in the particular shares allotted at a substantial premium, although, as far as we have been able to ascertain, no great number of shares was dealt in.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and the directors terminated the proceedings.

BARRATT'S DOUBLE SOLE BOOT.

WEARERS of this unique boot are not slow to recognise and appreciate its advantages, for their orders come along with unfailing regularity. So will yours once you have tried it. Read on

HEALTH AND COMFORT

The ordinary type of boot has only one layer of wearing leather between the foot and the ice-cold road. This absorbs the dampness, which is the common cause for that uncomfortable "cold feeling" that most people have experienced.

Barratt's Double Sole Boot has two layers of wearing leather, the outer layer acting as a non-conductor against damp, so that the second layer (which is nearer the foot) is untouched by the cold or damp. The natural result is a feeling of WARMTH and COMFORT to the wearer.

Send for sample pair. Each pair tested and guaranteed. **37/6**

LONG WEAR

In an ordinary single sole boot the foundation soon becomes ruined by repairing, leaving the bottoms mutilated and susceptible to damp, and therefore unfit for further use. The Double Sole Boot (obtainable only from Barratt's) cannot be damaged at the foundation during repairs because it is never interfered with, and you can continue to repair it time after time. It will never give way at the foundation.

This Stamp Sole itself gives two weeks' extra wear.

Style 1655.

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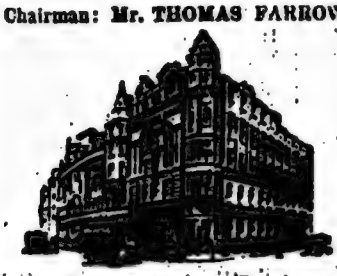

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The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[*The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, INSURANCE POLICIES, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C. 2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

"TWO BRITISH AMERICANS."—Approving our articles about America, you add:—"As you have been courageous enough to lead on this subject, I hope other editors will have the interest of their country at heart enough to follow." You bet they will. Like sheep.

F. W. (Wavertree).—"You seem to sense the different events before they happen." Coming events cast their shadows before.

"BONE DRY" (Washington).—"Don't let Pussyfoot make your people a race of serfs, even if you have to deport him." You may lead a Briton to the water, but it won't make him drunk.

V. A. (Gerrard's Cross).—"A German lady told me in 1914 that Mr. Lloyd George had come here to dethrone King George, and afterwards was going to Germany to dethrone the Kaiser." The latter was the better guess.

W. F. (Yorks).—The Huns have a big vote in the United States. Also a considerable share in the inflation of the dollar.

E. A. A. (Pontefract).—What do you mean by a "time-serving soldier"? We should be terribly sulphurous if you called us a "time-serving" politician.

"READER" (Twickenham).—We agree that "each constituency should put in an independent M.P." What majority do you give Charles Palmer?

"FLAPPERETTE" (Croydon).—"I wish you were my uncle." You *are* a saucy girl.

H. C. (Sharpness).—"Your cleverness makes me proud of you." Just what our parents always said.

G. H. (Carlisle).—We wish we could help you in your housing troubles, but the evil is too widespread for individual treatment.

J. T. A. (Hornsey Rise).—"The best article you have ever written—'*Is* America our Friend?'"—Our great regret is that we ever had occasion to write it.

R. H. (Perth).—Your curious notion, not put too politely, is that we should devote each week's issue to only one case of "abominable tyranny," and then follow it up till justice be done. That would mean ignoring thousands of wrongs every year. However, we don't loosen our grip in a hurry.

"DISCHARGED SOLDIER."—So you think Parliament is "for its own self." But you must not tar us all with the same brush.

R. L. O. (Gold Coast).—"Are all M.P.s styled 'right honourable'? If not, why?" Certainly not; because while strictly 'honourable' they are by no means always right.

M. R. (Leamington Spa).—"Before another war is started pay fathers the amount of money their sons have cost to keep since babyhood to 19." Will make a note of it in time for the next scrap.

H. C. (Leeds).—We have under consideration the question of reviving the John Bull League—consisting of readers of this journal. We must first, however, get rid of the League of Nations.

"FAVOURITE" (Winchester).—"What have the warders at Wormwood Scrubbs been charged for their rooms?" Cannot say; you had better ask them.

J. S. B. (Bournemouth).—Thanks for directions as to how leaders of Labour Party can "surprise themselves," but perhaps on the whole it would be better not to excite their feelings.

M. E. N. (Chesterfield).—Those "sanatorium mugs" you speak of would spoil the liveliest thirst. At first, we imagined you were referring to the physiognomy of the patients.

MRS. B. (Islington).—We note the unfortunate experience of your niece, "a girl of secondary education." The recital has frozen our marrow.

G. K. W. (London, N.) complains of the Disposal Board spending so much money in advertising so small a quantity of wood.

H. N. D. (Thornton Heath).—"Why should English ships carry a coloured crew?" Because some ship owners don't care a cuss about the colour of their crews so long as they pile up their profits.

G. G. P. (Leyton).—"What is meant by sabotage?" A sabot is a wooden shoe. Sabotage is wilful and unnecessary damage. Should you get a kick in the neck, or elsewhere, you may class that as sabotage.

C. H. (Stevenage).—Glad you got your money back from the Colonial Clothing Co., Railton Road, S.E. We are always pleased to help, when possible.

"A REGULAR READER" (Ashburton).—The Sunday Closing Act is a relic of the days of that devout King, Charles Number Two. That is why the goody-goodies of to-day love it so much.

MRS. L. A. L. (Berks).—We sympathise, but there's nothing new in your remarks *re* "butter, milk, sugar, eggs, bacon, etc." Even the butter isn't fresh.

H. B. (Nottingham).—Through disablement, you have been granted a commercial training at Loughborough Technical College, but are kept waiting for a vacancy—so many students and so few teachers. Such a reason for delay should not be allowed to last.

"REGULAR READER" (Woodbridge).—In cases where the control price is the fixed, and not merely the maximum price—tea, at one time, for instance—a man may be prosecuted for selling under, as well as over the figure.

"DEMOBBED W.A.A.C." (Christchurch).—"May I call your attention to a mistake in JOHN BULL?" Certainly, if you can find one.

"REGULAR READER."—Your suggested competitions seem more suitable for *Everywoman's*. Write the Editress, 88, Long Acre, W.C.

MRS. E. M. (Parkstone).—If you are the mother of seven girls and 11 boys, you have done your bit and deserve a rest.

A. E. B. (Penzance).—We see no useful purpose in discussing what *might* have happened if the old Home Rule Act had come into operation. Sorry to disoblige.

W. M. (Midhurst).—Glad our cartoon pleased you so much. On the strength of your compliment, the artist stood himself two drinks.

"HOME, SWEET HOME" (Helensburgh).—Your account of "seaside landladies" highly interesting, if a trifle unseasonable. Please do not send photographs if you can help it.

"FRANCOPHILE" (Paris).—We are overwhelmed with congratulations upon our last American article—written, it is interesting to note, at a single sitting and without the aid of artificial stimulants.

A. A. L. (Malta).—Thanks for account of new laws passed in Malta. Have they made the Maltese Cross?

"SUPERNUMERARY."—We are assured that no married women are now being retained by the Prudential Office from the staff which was employed to take the place of those who joined the Forces.

"NAUTICUS" (Norwich) declares that the current rates are 19s. 8d. in the £ in Norwich! His *nom de plume* suggests that he has made up his mind to "sail away."

P. P. (S. Shields).—At two Sunderland cafés, owned by same firm, your wife was refused tea because she carried a baby, "which might annoy other customers." Well, we *are* getting on!

A. E. C. (Forest Gate).—"Tell me the origin of the term Pussyfoot." A while ago, the *Daily News* said Mr. Johnson did not know why he was so called. A few days later the same paper stated Mr. Johnson said he was first called "Pussyfoot" by the Indians, as a compliment for his ability as tracker during a rising. Take your choice.

J. R. (Brighton).—"My protest is against your calling the United States America.' We apologise to Canada and the rest of the Continent. The U.S. is no more America than New York is Ottawa.

H. M. B. (Monte Carlo).—"French children are suffering in thousands from lack of food and warmth." A useful reminder for our pro-German "Save-the-Children' cranks who forget that charity begins at home.

"BRITISH VISITOR" (London, E.C.).—It is believed that Madame Tussaud's restored the Kaiser's effigy as some people absolutely insisted on having it there to make faces at.

MRS. P. (Finsbury Park).—We note that you want to know "the truth about the coals." The truth about ours is that they are "growing smaller by degrees and beautifully less."

T. W. W. (Tunbridge Wells).—We are not sure that "a tax on named houses" would "help the Chancellor of the Exchequer," but it would in all likelihood be of great assistance to the postman.

"HARD UP" (Herts).—We can think of no way of stopping "women who travel when they ought not to," short of sticking them down with glue.

E. H. (Salop).—Thanks for spirited poem on the Wrekin Election, to which you had better be ready to add a couple of extra verses on Friday.

"OBSERVER."—We are not convinced that "long-standing" causes "false eruptions of melancholy," though we appreciate the risk of varicose veins.

"CORPORAL" (Chester).—The lady supervisor who can be granted leave for days together "to make jam" would appear to have outstayed her usefulness. But perhaps she is particularly nice-looking.

"PRO PATRIA" (Coventry).—Not only in Coventry, but big and wealthy firms all over the country have acted with disgusting greediness at the auction sales of surplus Government stores—making purchases by the small man next to impossible.

E. D. (Stevenage, Herts.).—"JOHN BULL is the paper to buy." Instead of running into verse, you should have added, "and to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest." But poetry will out.

J. McC. (Hulme).—The firm, after paying you only £2 a week, described you as "too slow." Perhaps they were too quick, but they were not too generous.

A. B. (Cricklewood).—Not much use in asking us to criticise a "literary agency," genuine or bogus, when you do not mention its name. In any case, never send money to strangers, as we have remarked about once (a week) before.

"OLD CONTEMPTIBLE" (Weybridge).—"In my opinion, none can compare with our most noble General Townshend." *Pace* "armchair critics"—it appears to have been no fault of his that he had to Kut his losses.

"MABELLE" (Shepherd's Bush).—"... And shall we, Britons, who have ne'er been slaves, Leave unavenged our brothers in their graves In lonely France and underneath the waves?"

E. M. A. (Chester).—Rumour hath it that the Board of Trade is still inquiring why Coats's cotton is 7½d. a reel. The full facts will be published on or before the Day of Judgment.

G. G. (Rotherhithe).—We agree that to be of service to the daily worker the Labour Exchanges should be opened earlier in the mornings. You are at liberty to mention our views at the counter.

C. K. S. (London, N.).—As regards houses under £70 per annum in London, premiums are illegal—the official attitude being that folks paying more rent than this can go to blazes.

(*Continued on page* 23.)

READERS ARE INVITED TO VISIT

OUR NEW PEN DEPOTS:

19, LUDGATE HILL, E.C.

265, STRAND, W.C.

(Adjoining Law Courts)

WHERE THE FULL RANGE OF .... JOHN BULL PENS

CAN BE INSPECTED AND TESTED.

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon, Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O. for 3/3, and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen. STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus you may send 7 coupons and P.O. for 2/3 only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1/3 Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (*Feb. 21, 1920*).

P.O.s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.

N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

Letter Bag—Continued.

"PERPLEXED" (Preston).—Having considered the case of your friend with the "peculiar visions," we recommend plain soda-water for supper and a peppermint at bed-time.

"EXPECTANTLY" (Scarborough).—The duties of a Borough Meteorologist—at Scarborough, for example—would not be very arduous, but certainly worth more than £45 10s. per annum—£84 10s. *less* than the Borough dustmen are paid! Is Science, like Virtue, its own reward?

J. M. (Glasgow).—Have gladly forwarded the £1 to the poor fellow chronicled as "Down and Out," in our issue of 31st Jan. Very kind of you.

MRS. L. J. C. (Gillingham).—"In this town alone nearly all the grocers are still keeping girls in the men's jobs." Not "alone," by any means. We see it everywhere, more shame to the shopkeepers.

J. H. (St. Helens).—"Lately I have been troubled with poetitis, and my wife says I must either mend my ways or she will apply for a separation." We have read your sample. She's justified.

C. N. (Brighton).—Ad. in local paper: "For sale, two sausage machines; large dog-kennel." Evidently another going concern.

MRS. P. (Camden Town).—Any clergyman who, asked to church a mother and christen her baby, objects to do so, is a disgrace to his cloth.

"FOUR OF THE DEVIL'S IMPS" (Norwich).—"Now that we are rationed for coal, and are exceedingly short, do people still go to Hell?" Wait and see.

MISS B. G. (N. Kensington).—Yes, cinemas are unduly raising prices of admission. However, you have your remedy. Go less often or boycott the offenders.

D. J. (Carlisle).—"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house."

"STUART" (Fife).—No space for an article stirring up Linlithgow to start a collection of Stuart relics. No justification for spending money on a fetish in these days.

MR. B. (Leicestershire).—"The farmers here are protesting against the 48 hours' week. I think when a man has worked 48 hours he has done enough for one day." We agree—but envy him the Joshua-like powers he must possess.

"BUTCHER" (Edinburgh).—Anent our suggestion of corporal punishment for cruelty to animals, you advise:—"Begin with some of the shippers of cattle from Ireland to Liverpool and Glasgow. The animals frequently arrive so bruised inside and out that many are unfit for human food." Noted.

J. J. (Scarborough).—Do good by wealth and blush to find it shame.

D. J. (Newnham).—"I knew all along Wilson was underhanded and bluffing, and the Yanks would not sign." The Allies made a mistake in taking the President at his own valuation and backing him at his own price.

"SUFFERER" (Littlehampton).—It is true that the Increase of Rents Acts do not apply to shop premises. Sorry we have so little comfort to offer you.

F. G. L. (Dover).—"What is America's game?" Brag!

"SOLDIER'S WIDOW" (Islington).—Where you apply for work and are refused, you find policemen's wives engaged. Yes, it's a shame you should "nearly starve" while women work who do not actually need the money.

"A REAL VICTIM" (Streatham).—"In this neighbourhood there are a lot of married men on the look-out for women (young widows) similarly placed to myself." Do not look at them, and you will not see them.

"WORRIED, 15."—If what you say about expecting a baby is true and not a silly joke, we can give you no such wicked advice as you suggest. You must at once tell the truth to your mother, or your family doctor. But don't be more of a little fool than you have been.

"DISGUSTED" (Pretoria).—When people don't know too much, they can always learn something. We acquired the German *Deutschland* as an exhibition ship, in aid of ex-sailors.

E. W. K. (59th Can.).—"Let us not forget the U.S.—the last to come in and among the first to go home."

"DOMESTIC SERVANT" (Chatham).—"Publish the rules and outings of domestic servants." They seem to make their own rules and arrange their own outings nowadays.

H. J. T. (Forest Gate).—The young lady at the tea-rooms charged you ½d. for a saccharine tablet in your cup. If we were cynical, we might say that it is foolish to expect sweetness from a girl without paying for it!

F. J. H. (London).—Packets of old Christmas cards and picture post-cards are welcome at most children's hospitals and homes. You ask for some to be sent to Administrator, Bedford Court Home, Worcestershire.

"BINKS" (Bromley).—"Some of the answers given in our "Letter Bag"] make me go so far as to believe that there must be some witty wag on the Editorial staff. Is my assumption correct?" Good heavens, there are dozens. Even the cat comes from Cheshire.

J. R. B. (Beaufield, Sask.).—"If you had seen some of the next issues of the (Canadian) *Star* you would have seen a number of letters championing English girls." That's as it ought to be. English girls are the best in the world.

A. H. P. (Straits Settlements).—Say what you will, we can see no harm in confetti at weddings; of rice and pickled onions we are less enamoured.

"L.R.C.P." (London).—Be good and jeer not.

O. O. T. B. (London) contends that every ex-Service man should have a piece of land, "with a cottage, built in a convenient position, fit to live in." Much can be said about this idea.

T. C. (Tottenham).—Glad you have got your increased pension, but do not let it drive you into poetry! "Receiving," for instance, is not a very good rhyme for "profiteering," whilst "prize" and "try" is not much better.

"AUSTRALIAN MOTHER."—From all we hear, it looks as though we shall have to print a fresh series of articles on the Great Emigration Lie.

J. M. (Southsea).—Last September you applied for appointment as keeper of an L.C.C. School. On 7th February the Council notified you that you had not been selected. Only five months after! No mistake, the L.C.C. can hustle when it likes.

G. R. (Port Glasgow).—It is certainly unfair that you should stand down in favour of a German. Could you forward his pedigree?

A. F. L. (Aberdeen).—We do not quite follow your allusion to "pre-war children under three years of age." They must be growing up slowly.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

Rowntree's Cocoa

"It's the Flavour, Flavour, Flavour, that the families favour."

IS YOUR ROOM COLD

because of the oilcloth on the floors? If so, let us help you to a more comfortable condition by covering your floors with Catesbys Cork Lino. Unlike oilcloth or low-grade linoleum, our Cork Lino makes a room look cosy and feel cosy. The beauty of the colours achieves the one result, and the splendid quality and the substance of Cork in our Lino achieves the other welcome result. Don't be cold when you can be warm. Get our Lino now, on Easy Terms, if you wish, or pay cash and get 2s. in the £ discount. Patterns, prices and samples post free, and we pay carriage to your door.

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Dept. 18, Tottenham Court Rd., London, W.1.

CATESBY

We supply reliable stylish made-to-measure Suits on Easy terms. We have "made" for thousands. Let us "make" for you. Patterns, money back guarantee, and style book, post free.

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SUITS

BEACON OILSKINS

will keep you dry always. Men's Coats from 21/-, Ladies' from 23/6, Children's from 14/6 (9 year-old size). Adults' Sou'-wester, 3/-, Long Leggings, 5/-—all guaranteed against stickiness, leakage or disinfection on money-back methods.

Illustrated Note Post Free. Send Post Card now for this Art Booklet of "Weather Comfort" to

67, Beacon Building, SOUTH SHIELDS, England.

THE ONE

'SHORT CUT' TO GOOD ENGLISH

Mastery of words—skill and force in your every-day use of language—fits you for larger enterprise, leadership and achievement. When you consider the unlimited prestige and power within the grasp of those who are proficient in their use of English, will you wait one instant longer before deciding to

BECOME A MASTER OF ENGLISH

by means of the original, direct, and easily understood Course of Training so successfully introduced by Professor Grenville Kleiser? This Postal Course in Good English requires no arduous study or memorising of involved rules. It has none of the wearisome features of old-time school methods. Spare time is all you need. Fifteen minutes daily will serve. You benefit at once. Your **stock of words is enlarged.** Your **conversation becomes easy, free, engaging.** You are able to **write convincingly and forcefully.** You can **shine in any society.**

The Kleiser Method is the one "short cut" to Good English. SEND THE ENQUIRY FORM and LEARN WHY.

FUNK & WAGNALLS CO., Salisbury Sq., E.C.4.

To Funk & Wagnalls Co., Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4. NON-COMMITTAL ENQUIRY FORM

Without cost on my part please to give me the details of Professor Kleiser's Course in Practical English and Mental Efficiency. "J.B."

Name.....

Address.....

FOR THIS WEEK ONLY!

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty-two examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other Words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you: Example:—**Gay Dog.** Bullet:—**Always Has His Day.** Example:—**Manufacturing Trouble.** Bullet:—**Agitator's Only Output.** Competitors may send in two BULLETS for 6d. If more coupons are used, an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated March 13th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 365.

LLOYD GEORGE MUST	BRITISH SOVEREIGN	WHO WON THE WAR	DARING DEEDS
THE BIG PUSH	DESERVING CASE	CATCHING THE CRIMINALS	GAY DOG
WINSTON'S FUTURE	BOLSHEVIK GOVERNMENT	FLEECING THE PUBLIC	IN THE CITY
FIT FOR HEROES	A DOG'S LIFE	WHEN WOMEN RULE	IN A BAD STATE
MEMBER FOR WREKIN	IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR	WHAT MINERS DEMAND	SCRAPPING
THE WRONG WAY	SURPRISING RESULT	MAN OF THE MOMENT	ONCE BITTEN
PLAYING TRUMP CARD	LADY DETECTIVE	A BIG HANDICAP	THREATENING
WE WANT TO KNOW	MESSAGE FROM MARS	MANUFACTURING TROUBLE	FULL OF FIGHT

Closing Date, Thursday, February 26th.

No.____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(365) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 1 coupon is used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

Closing Date, Thursday, February 26th.

No.____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(365) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No. 365, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

Closing Date, Thursday, February 26th.

No.____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(365) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 3 coupons are used P.O. for 1/6 must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

Closing Date, Thursday, February 26th.

No.____
Example_____
Bullet_____
Example_____
Bullet_____

(365) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
If 4 coupons are used P.O. for 2s. must be sent.

Signed_____
Address_____

Next Week's Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 366.

WHAT WORKERS WANT—SCOTLAND YARD—SOWING THE SEED—ON THE BENCH—THE OAT—DETAINED AT THE OFFICE—I SHOULD LIKE—OUGHT TO BE KICKED—BACKING A DERT—EARLY BIRD—A SMART GIRL—GREAT STRUGGLE—ON LAST LEGS—AT OUR EXPENSE—FATHER'S WEAKNESS—ON THIN ICE—BEYOND RECALL—OFF THE MAP—MY DELIGHT—GETTING TOO FAST.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, Mar. 4th.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number **366** in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets" No. 366, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty-two examples for Competition 366.

List of £1 Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 362 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."

Result of 362nd 'Bullets' Competition

FIRST PRIZE OF £1,000:
Miss BARBARA COWLING,
4, Tamar View, Launceston, Cornwall.
Example:—British Workers.
Bullet:—"Marking Time"—Not Times.

SECOND PRIZE OF £250:
Mr. MATHEW MARK, 4, York Avenue, Sedgley Park, Prestwich, Manchester.
Example:—Not So Easy.
Bullet:—Avoiding Kicks Reaching Goal.

THIRD PRIZE OF £100:
Mr. W. P. SUTCLIFFE, Unicorn Hotel, Bradford.
Example:—In The Tube.
Bullet:—"Fight" First, "Train" Afterwards.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

Mrs. F. May, 175, Bedford St. S., Liverpool: The Next War—Hasn't Last "Crippled Enough"?

Mr. W. T. Clark, 180, Romford Rd., E.7: Forgetting—The League—Its Authors.

Mr. C. Garwood, 412, Brixton Rd., London, S.W.9. No Good—Germans "Up To Now."

Mr. W. Donnelly, 3, Glendale Rd., Erith, Kent: Mean Business—Sending Tommy About His.

Mr. F. Smith, Eastington, Stonehouse, Glos.: Making It Hot—Then "Getting Things Done."

Miss Oliphant, 85, Marchmont Rd., Edinburgh: Full Inside—With Hate, Germany Still.

Mr. S. Hume, 60, Central Rd., Port Sunlight, Cheshire: Labour's Day—Signalled Before It's Due.

Mr. H. Haig, c/o Messrs. Gillard, 3, New Bond St. Bldgs., Bath: Takes The Biscuit—What Formerly Sought Loaf. "(Free Target" Prize Coupon.)

Mrs. E. J. Pringle, 43, Grierson St., Lodge Lane, Liverpool: Forgetting—Taste Of Pure Food.

Mr. C. Tordoff, Norwood Green, Halifax: Lloyd George's Future—"Must Lead Somewhere."

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

Mr. A. Rashley, 3, Gladstone Terr., Winchester: Bad For Us—America Evidently Thinks Prosperity.

Mr. A. Tunstall, 55, Longfield, Prestwich, M/c: Wasting Away—Until The "Friction" Stops.

Mrs. E. Baker, 2, Station Terr., Brushford, Dulverton: Standing Round—Wish More Scaffolding Was.

Mr. P. C. Moody, 60, Bolingbroke Rd., Stoke, Coventry: Not So Easy—Bridging The Labour Gulf.

Mr. L. Watkins 28, Belbington Rd., New Cross: Coalition Government—"Housing" The Wrong People.

Mrs. Geo. Barden, 6, Laygate Pl., S. Shields: Forgetting—Easiest After "Good Time."

Mr. D. H. Davies, 26, Hillside, Neath, Glam.: Coalition Government—Issue "Tickets" Not "Returns."

Miss A. Day, 9, Grove Mans., Old Hill St., N.16. British Workers—Bit "Exclusive" Tommy Thinks.

Miss A. I. Friar, 31, Low Greens, Berwick: Making It Hot—Comedian's Substitute For Humour.

Mr. Inglebi, 24, Fernleaf St., Moss Side, M/c: The Red Flag—Stops Cautious—Spurs Reckless.

BULLETS RULES. 1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d., made payable to John Bull and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex. The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed £2. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect of each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and properly situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published in the first issue of each month.

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

For Damage to Contents of Home by Fire up to	£200
In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye ..	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment; up to ..	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks..	£1 per week

ORDER FORM
To be Retained by Newsagent.

To .....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice

Signed.....

Address.....

Feb. 21, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to John Bull Insurance Dept. 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of John Bull with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee .....

Address.....

Signature of Insured.....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address.....

Feb. 21, 1920 .....

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

EVERY WEEK

A BIG FOOTBALL CASH PRIZE MUST BE WON.

£250 MUST BE WON!

FOR TEN WINNING TEAMS

OR NEXT LARGEST NUMBER OF WINNING TEAMS.

Our Football Competition pays out big cash prizes *every week*. It is quite original, and appears exclusively in "John Bull." The sum of £250 will be paid to the sender of ten winning teams selected from those given on the coupon on this page. Should no competitor succeed in giving ten winning teams, the prize of £250 will be awarded to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams. This competition is open for one week, and coupons can only be taken from this week's issue.

£250 must be won THIS WEEK; send in YOUR coupon without delay.

NO ENTRANCE FEE—GREAT ONE-WEEK COMPETITION.

THIS COMPETITION IS EXCLUSIVE TO "JOHN BULL."

Coupons do not appear in any other paper.

The competition is quite free, no entrance fee of any kind being charged. Competitors can send as many coupons as they like. Scottish and Irish readers may compete. A careful study of football form should be made before filling in coupons. The "National News" gives the best and most accurate reports and forecasts every Sunday, which should prove of great assistance to intending competitors.

Cut out coupon neatly and address all entries as follows:—"Football Competition No. 24 JOHN BULL, 28, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2." Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other competitions.

YOU CAN SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS YOU LIKE.

For Result of Football Competition No. 21 see Page 16.

Read these Rules Carefully.

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from the issue of JOHN BULL announcing this competition. Coupons must be written in ink (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and must be filled up in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £250 (Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds) will be paid to the sender of a coupon giving any ten winning teams from amongst those playing on February 28th, given on the coupon on this page and as set out on that coupon. If no competitor succeeds in giving ten winning teams the prize of £250 will be paid to the sender of the next largest number of winning teams as described above. If two or more competitors succeed in giving ten winning teams, or failing that, succeed in sending the next largest number of winning teams, the £250 will be divided equally amongst them.

(3) Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded, and winning teams from the remaining fixtures only will be allowed to count.

(4) **Any coupon which has marked upon it more than ten Xs or less than ten Xs will be disqualified.**

(5) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(6) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified.

(7) Our employees are debarred from entering the competition.

(8) Any coupons received later than Thursday, February 26th will be disqualified.

(9) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

HOW TO MARK YOUR COUPONS.

If you think the "Home" team will win put a X in the left-hand column headed "Home Win"; if you think the "Away" team will win put a X in the right-hand column headed "Away Win." Only ten teams must be marked in all. **If more or less than ten Xs appear on any one coupon it will be disqualified. Coupons MUST be written in ink.**

"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.

Matches to be played Saturday, February 28th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, February 26th.

Home Win	Home Team		Away Team	Away Win
	Manchester United	v.	The Arsenal	
	Middlesbrough	v.	West Bromwich Albion	
	Preston North End	v.	Manchester City	
	Sheffield United	v.	Sunderland	
	Bury	v.	Stoke	
	Clapton Orient	v.	West Ham United	
	Notts Forest	v.	Birmingham	
	South Shields	v.	Blackpool	
	Wolverhampton W.	v.	Huddersfield...	
	Brentford	v.	Watford	
	Bristol Rovers	v.	Crystal Palace	
	Merthyr Town	v.	Norwich City	
	Southampton	v.	Portsmouth	
	Stockport County	v.	Fulham	
	Falkirk	v.	Aberdeen	
	St. Mirren	v.	Dundee	

Coupons must be cut—not torn out.

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding, and enter on that understanding.

SIGNED .....

24 ADDRESS .....

.....

A

Splendid Investment

Can be secured at small cost.

It is possible to

BUY YOUR HOUSE

by the Splendid schemes with or without Life Assurance benefits offered

THROUGH

THE CITY LIFE

And utilise the rent for the repayments.

Particulars Free—

Apply D.B. J.B., 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, E.C.2.

Rheumatism!

I RUB WITH SMEDLEY'S PASTE

Rheumatism and kindred ailments are instantly relieved by Smedley's Paste. It warms and soothes the nerves, promotes a feeling of comfort and banishes the pain.

Of all chemists, 1/3, 2/-, 3/- a jar, or from HIRST, BROOKE & HIRST, LTD., LEEDS.

CONCERT ENGAGEMENTS

£10 — £6 — £4

Special TEST Competition Open to Amateur and Professional

VOCALISTS—PIANISTS—VIOLINISTS

Arranged by the PARKER-CHARLES MUSIC PUBLISHING CO., LTD.

Adjudicator—Mr. D. CAMERON FORRESTER, of the "Era," "Pall Mall Gazette," etc.

Entry Form, giving particulars, is now being included with the following Parker-Charles publications:—

PIANO: Jag-Jazz Fox-Trot - - - 2/-

VOCAL DUET (Lady & Gent.): Love in a Cottage 2/-

SONG: The Pathway of Shadows - - - 2/-
(Two keys, F and Ab)

VIOLIN: Adieu - - - - - - 2/-

The Duet and Fox-Trot may be heard on H.M.V., and the Song on Invicta Gramophone Records. Ask your dealer to let you hear them.

Important.—The Company has arranged the Contest in such a manner that competitors *in all parts of the United Kingdom* may have an equal chance of securing a footing in the concert world.

CONDITIONS.

1. Competitors may choose as a test-piece one of the above publications, or any other item issued by the Parker-Charles Music Publishing Co., Ltd.
2. Successful competitors may, if they prefer, receive the cash amounts in lieu of engagements.
3. Should entry form be missing from any item purchased for competition purposes, a duplicate may be obtained by sending to the Company the music-seller's receipt (or the music) with stamp for return.
4. Unsuccessful entrants in previous Parker-Charles contests, or those who for any reason were not heard by the Company's local adjudicators, are eligible for the present competition with the music already in their possession by forwarding particulars to the Company.
5. The decision of the adjudicator is binding and final.

Further particulars will be sent on application to the

PARKER-CHARLES

Music Publishing Co., Ltd.,

64, NEWMAN STREET, LONDON, W.1.

The Bennett College

ESTABLISHED 1900 SHEFFIELD

WE TEACH BY POST

THE FOLLOWING TRADES AND PROFESSIONS:

Aviation
Shipbuilding
Electricity
Mining
Engineering
Mathematics
Structural Engineering
Surveying & Levelling
Architectural Drawing
Building Construction
Clerk of Works Duties
Structures in Concrete and Steel
Draughtsmanship
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Boiler Inspecting
Marine Engineering
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Internal Combustion Engines

If you are interested in any of the above, write for FREE BOOKLET. The Bennett College Diploma is PROOF of efficiency. We coach for all recognised exams. Advice free.

THE BENNETT COLLEGE (Dept. 31), SHEFFIELD.

GOVERNMENT "SURPLUS"

Splendid Offer of New Military

15/- LEATHER WAISTCOATS

LINED WITH SILVER-GREY WOOL

For outdoor, winter wear these Waistcoats are ideal, combining absolute protection with perfect comfort. Each garment is guaranteed and has passed Government Inspection. If made to-day would cost at least 25/- each. OUR PRICE, 15/-

Cash with Order (Money Back Guarantee). Orders treated in strict rotation. All goods sent Carriage Paid. *Hundreds of other Bargains. Send for List.*

CURRIE'S STORES 29, Downing St., MANCHESTER

TATCHO

The HAIR GROWER

Mr. Geo. R. Sims' discovery 1/3, 2/9, 4/6

You Can Live { 13 days without Food. 3 days without Water. Only 3 minutes without Air.

COUGHS, COLDS, INFLUENZA, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, CATARRH AND WHOOPING COUGH

Reduce the Air Ration below Health Point.

The natural consequence is that the Breathing is affected, the bronchial tubes or Bronchi become inflamed, and cough, more or less serious, follows. If neglected the entire respiratory system is weakened, and that way consumption lies. Children suffer more frequently from such complaints than do their elders, the deathrate among the very young being truly appalling, and in too many instances due entirely to thoughtless neglect.

The World's Supreme Remedy

is Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, so called because of the rapidity with which it overcomes chronic coughs and cures deep-seated and long-standing cases of any of the above-named troubles. Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, in open Competition with the world, was

Awarded Grand Prix and Gold Medal at the International Health Exhibition, Paris, 1910

for its purity, efficacy, and pharmaceutical excellence.

Many thousands of testimonials from cured patients, scientific men and doctors have been received. The following is an example.

Chas. Hyatt-Woolf, Esq., F.R.P.S., F.R.S.L., *in his work, "Truths About Things We Live On and, Daily Use," says: "I have experimented in the laboratory with Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and I have likewise applied it in practice . . . . In all cases to which I applied it the influence of this remedy was most marked."*

Ask always for Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. It is sold by Chemists, Stores, and Medicine Dealers in all parts of the world. If your Chemist is out of stock he will get it for you.

Reduced facsimile of original package. Refuse all imitations and substitutes.

English Prices, 1/3 and 3/-

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

Sole Proprietors—The Veno Drug Co., Ltd., Manufacturing Chemists, Manchester, Eng.

DO YOU KEEP

careful watch upon that important part of your physical organization—the digestive system? It will repay you well to do so. The work of digestion involves operations of great complexity and the organs concerned are very liable to be thrown out of order. A disordered digestion will bring immediate discomfort—sometimes indeed, very great distress—and if the condition should be allowed to continue it may ultimately produce a condition of ill-health more or less chronic. The wisest course to pursue is to arrest the trouble at once, before it gains a hold upon the system. To this end,

BEECHAM'S PILLS

will be found of the greatest service. This valuable preparation has won a great reputation for arresting attacks of indigestion, removing biliousness, banishing sick headache, preventing constipation and restoring the system to normal efficiency. There are many people to-day who are keeping themselves in perfect health both easily and inexpensively. They simply take Beecham's Pills having proved their splendid value as a curative agent and also as a preventive medicine. The result of their experience is that they never allow themselves to be without a box ready for instant needs. You will do well to follow this good example; see to it that you also have a supply of Beecham's Pills

IN YOUR HOME?

Prepared only by THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens, Lancs.

Sold everywhere in boxes, labelled 1s-3d and 3s-0d.

Hair Cut Yourself

—WITH THE—

DOUGLAS PRUNER

DON'T WASTE TIME AT THE BARBER'S

You can cut your own Hair any length you like—comfortably at Home—in a few minutes. It is nothing but a process of combing. Use it as you Use a Comb. The result is always SMOOTH AND EVEN. It trims just a little off long Curly Hair, or shaves the back of the neck, just as you like.

Do not doubt these statements: you can try the DOUGLAS PRUNER for nothing for SEVEN DAYS.

Send price 5/6 for a DOUGLAS PRUNER complete with Spare Blade.

If you do not like it send it back and we will return 5/6 to you without question.

(The Luxe Model with Hair Waver and six blades, Price 7/6.)

Read the following testimonial, which is one of many:—

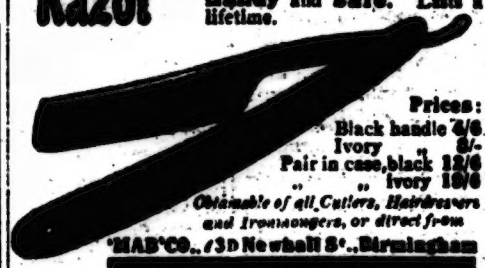
Dear Sirs—I purchased a Douglas Pruner from you some time ago. Please send me one dozen blades for it. It is a wonderful invention. I am glad it is British. No barbers for me since I had it.

DOUGLAS KIRBY & CO.

PRICE 5/6 WORTH A GUINEA.	Dept. J.B., St. John's Lane, GLOUCESTER.	OVER 5,000 IN USE.

THE FAMOUS "Mab" Dwarf Razor

USE A FAMOUS "MAB" DWARF RAZOR and learn what shaving comfort is. Made from an amalgam of the finest Sheffield Steel. Thousands of men in all parts of the world have testified for 25 years to its wonderful efficiency—keen, handy and safe. Lasts a lifetime.



Prices:
Black handle 2/6
Ivory " 3/-
Pair in case, black 12/6
" " ivory 15/6

Obtainable of all Cutlers, Hairdressers and Ironmongers, or direct from

"MAB" CO., 13D Newhall St., Birmingham

Piano lessons by Post

Write for particulars explaining how you may become a brilliant pianist with a minimum of energy and expense. Please state Mr., Mrs. or Miss, and enclose stamp for postage.

R. WRIGHT-HIGGINS, F.R.C.O., 7, Oak House, Parkhurst Rd., N.7.

MASS PRODUCTION

By British Timber Plantations, Ltd., Birmingham.

Last 1,000 of 10,000 Adjustable Reclining Chairs

Recently Purchased

SPECIFICATION: Frame solid oak, fumed brown oak or Jacobean. Beautifully upholstered, good quality corduroy. Fawn, Old Gold and Green, with loose cushions back and seat, as illustrated, or loose cushion back and spring seat.

"PLANTATION TO FIRESIDE."

We are offering the last **1,000 at 59/6**

Now is your Opportunity.

Packed free and sent carriage paid to nearest Railway Station

59/6

MIDLAND PRODUCE, Ltd., 27, Temple Row, BIRMINGHAM.

The SUPER BRAND Spinet MIXTURE AND CIGARETTES

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